102
N. E. Y. Meeting
Men & Women
Minutes
1896 — 1917
~~YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS~~ Y
N.E. ~~FOR NEW ENGLAND~~ Y.M.

YM
102
No. 2

N. E Yearly Meeting
Minutes

Men

Women

1890 - 1917

YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND

Yearly Meeting of Friends
for New England.

Sixth Mo. 1890
" " 1917

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westerly Rhode Island, commencing with public meetings for worship on first day the 15th of Sixth month 1890, and second day morning the 16th with those for discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings we are informed that the following named friends have been appointed to attend this Meeting as representatives. Viz., From Rhode Island, Jonathan Shaw, John W. Foster, Thomas Perry, George Foster, George L. Foster, J. Barclay Foster, and Charles Perry Jr. From Sandwich, James H. Tucker and Isaac P. Wilbur, whose names having been called, they were all present except one and answered thereto.

We have received and read at this time acceptable Epistles from Ohio, Western Iowa, Canada & Kansas Yearly Meetings, and the weighty, lively council and encouragement contained therein, have caused us freshly to realize our unworthiness and dependence upon Divine help, and our hearts have been contrited yet made hopeful by these renewed manifestations of Divine regard, and we appoint our friends Jesse Tucker, Joh. S. Gidley, John W. Foster, John Barclay Foster, William T. Hood and James H. Tucker, a committee to prepare essays of replies to them, if way should open therefor, and present to a future sitting of this meeting.

We have also received, and read a very sweet and weighty epistle from our beloved friend Joseph Walton of Philadelphia, much to our encouragement and comfort, and the clerk is directed to properly acknowledge the receipt of same.

The weighty subject of preparing a general epistle to all Friends, in New England and elsewhere, who are endeavoring to live up to the Truth in its simplicity and purity as held by Geo. Fox, Robert Barclay, William Penn, Isaac Pennington and other consistent Friends, who find themselves in very trial situations, coming before the meeting at this time, it is referred to the committee on epistles, for their weighty consideration, and they are left at liberty to prepare such essay if way opens in the Truth at this time, or if otherwise to propose such measures to the meeting for future action, as in their judgment seems best.

We appoint Thomas Perry, Isaac T. Hilbur and John Barclay Foster to prepare a summary of the answers to the queries and present at our sitting this afternoon.

George C. Foster and James T. Hilbur are appointed to examine and settle the account of the Treasurer, and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer the ensuing year and report at a future sitting.

The representatives are requested to confer together at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the meeting as a clerk and another for assistant clerk and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjournment to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Second day afternoon near the hour adjourned to Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives having been called they were present as at our morning sitting.

George Foster on behalf of the representatives reported that they had met and were united in proposing John H. Foster for clerk and Job S. Gidley for assistant clerk of this meeting, their names being separately considered were united with and they are appointed to those stations respectively for the ensuing year.

The state of society was entered upon by the reading of the Queries and answers thereto from our Quarterly Meetings, and a summary thereof having been prepared by the Friends appointed for that purpose, it was also read and directed to be recorded.

Our minds have been brought into deep exercise and close examination on account of the deficiencies reported, and we have felt that those friends whose duty and privilege it is, to watch over the flock have not been as watchful and faithful at all times as a closer attention to the pointing of the Truth would lead into, and much pertinent council as well as sympathy and affectionate regard was felt for the dear young and middle aged Friends. — and they were encouraged to attend all our meetings both for religious worship and discipline, that we owe all we have and are to our Heavenly Father, and it is but little we can do in return for His manifold and unmerited favors.

That the attendance of our meetings not only manifests our allegiance to our Lord and Saviour but strengthens us in good desires. Not only so but our examples to others and to the world is no light matter. And all Friends were encouraged and exhorted to faithfulness in the maintenance of all of our testimonies, not being ashamed of Christ before men in our language, our dress and our entire deportment, and all were desired not to give way to discouragement, but to have faith

that our Great High Priest even the compassionate Jesus would bless the labors of the few, if faithful in their allotted stations.

The records of the meeting for sufferings were read at this time, and approved and we appoint Isaac P. Wilbur, George Foster and Jesse Tucker a committee to unite with a committee of the Women's meeting to propose the names of suitable Friends to constitute a meeting for sufferings for the ensuing year.

Adjourned to 3d day afternoon the 17th.

Third day afternoon the 17th met pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the representatives having been called, they were present as at our last sitting.

The committee appointed to examine and settle the treasurer's account and for other purposes have produced the following report — viz —.

The committee appointed to examine and settle the treasurer's account and for other purposes have attended to that service.

They find the account properly kept and the proper vouchers filed. The balance in the hands of the treasurer is eleven hundred and forty two + 37/100 dollars.

They recommend that Thomas Perry be reappointed treasurer for the ensuing year. It does not appear to be necessary to raise any money for the use of the Yearly Meeting this year.

On behalf of the Committee
George Foster

Jos. S. Gidley and Chas. Perry Jr.

[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
James H. Tucker. Jos. S. Gidley.

[illegible] was read and [illegible] publication and distribution of the same is [illegible]

The clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts [illegible]

[illegible] weakness and feeling induced for and [illegible]

John W. Foster Clerk

Answers to Census

1st Nov. All of the citizens, [illegible] opinion have used their exertions two or three whole days, or parts of days, [illegible]

The [illegible] first days are both well attended, mid-week meetings and some for christian [illegible] The [illegible] of the [illegible]

Ans 2nd Love and unity are maintained and distinctions
guarded against as differences have come to our
knowledge

Ans 3rd There is a watchful care on the part of some
Friends in bringing up children in their care
in plainness of speech behaviour and attire
& some Friends are circumspect in their affairs
are as would be best. We trust most Friends have
a care to restrain from levity reading and
corrupt conversation, and we believe the Holy Scriptures
are frequently read in Friends families

Ans 4th Friends are believed to avoid the use of Spirituous liquors
except for medicine, and are watchful with clear testimony
the frequenting of taverns and places of public resort
Clear as respects the other parts of this query.

Ans 5th We observe, in keeping to plainness, as to dress
and to the children placed from among Friends

Ans 6th Parents and heads of families with the young
and rising family appear to be careful that
proceedings with respect to marriage be
conformable to our discipline

Ans 7th Friends maintain a testimony against the
payment of priests wages bearing arms, training
and other military matters, also attesting the several
other matters referred to in this query; except that
some Friends of Finns attend meetings where
a paid ministry is maintained.

Ans 8th Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and
settle their accounts, and punctual to their
promises, just in the payment of their debts and
careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances

Ans. 4th It seems to be a common practice, for there are some births & deaths recorded, but not all, nor is there any [illegible] removals within the limits of a Friends Meeting without certificates

Ans. 5th Some care is taken to deal with offenders when necessary and to pass judgment according to discipline

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(Copy)

From New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, held by adjournments from the 1 of 6th Mo. to 1891

To Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends — Your very welcome Epistle of 9th Mo. last has been received and read in our meeting at this time, with feelings of much satisfaction. We are truly glad that you can say that your meeting was so favored as to be held in much solemnity and with an evidence larger than usual for.

[illegible] great [illegible] we believe were favored with [illegible] and [illegible] in demonstration of the spirit and power.

[illegible] are [illegible] that all who partakers therein should feel a spirit of thankfulness to arise from off the altar of their hearts to the Father of all our sure mercies — the Author and bestower of all our blessings. There is no greater favor we can receive in this our earthly pilgrimage than at times it is permitted to feel the living presence & to hear the voice our hearts to burn within us as we travel on our way.

There are seasons, indeed, in the experience of us we are made to lie down in green pastures, and are led beside the still waters.

We have received at this time, Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings which are in correspondence with us and [illegible] and the language [illegible] and brotherly interest [illegible] with desires that we may hold

and another bond of union among the brotherhood of mankind. If we feel [illegible] towards another, we may be enabled to speak a word in season one to another, which shall be as a remembrance of our duty to our Heavenly Father, our Redeemer and to ourselves.

We are told by the Apostle that [illegible] should exhort one another, and so much the more as we see the day approaching. Let us remember what is written before us, for these things were written for our learning, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

We have been all personally made sensible that if we would experience a growth in Spiritual things, we must be willing to take up the cross. Christ is declared to be the way, the truth and the life. He is the door into the fold of rest and peace. That all who enter therein must enter through Him. He also declares that whosoever doth not bear his cross and come after him cannot be his disciple. By asking us to take up our cross he acknowledges us before men — and such He says He will acknowledge before His Father and the holy angels.

The attendance of so large a number of young people proves the cause of humble Zion to be gaining ground. They will soon be called to fill your places, and if they have only manifested an interest in the affairs of society, you can see the need to have that interest strengthened. They will give their strength to the upbuilding of our precious institutions before the world.

It is also pleasing to note that you are taking steps in regard to the education of your children. [illegible]

that they may also in some measure be secured from the power and pollutions that abound in the world, should be our constant care and concern of all rightly exercised parents and friends. Early impressions made of good or evil, are often lasting - and it is of vital importance that we by as much as possible to guard them from evil influence, and to surround them by the shield of religious instruction.

With the assurance of love we remain
Your friends

(Copy.)

From New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Newport, (R.I.) by adjournments, from the 14th of 6th Month, to the 18th of the same inclusive 1890.

To Western Yearly Meetings of Friends —

Dear Friends

In the language of Holy Writ, we, which is true of Christian unity and fellowship, We salute you, desiring that it, we all as yourselves may walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and given himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savor.

We feel near unto you, as a dear people, to whom we in many years in yearly sessions, with none to make us afraid; and while we have traveled thro' the wilderness, our valiant standard bearers have nearly all passed away, and in their places, we find a mixed, as it were by the errors of judges, and have our hearts drawn into sympathy with them.

Yet such and such is our case, we have been favored at this time to open our minds towards Jerusalem, and to set our faces toward the city of our God, as Israel of old did their natural home.

The dear ones are gone to their rest, but we are left to our tribulations, comforting ourselves

[illegible] we [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible], and though [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
strength, and humbly believe that we have been
[illegible] to [illegible] a little of that holy
[illegible] which [illegible] [illegible]
— of Heaven.

We have received your comforting letter
of 4th. month last, and also Epistle from Dr.
Fothergill, dated and bearing your sealing all
of which have been truly acceptable and
comforting to us. We view highly this
fraternal correspondence with other bodies of friends
having been blessed in a day of trial in the past
and we have felt much comforted in the recent
years in the view of movements which have disclosed
in a goodly number here and there in the world, who
have felt constrained to stand for the old paths,
and walk therein. We are persuaded that there
are many deploring our name, and yet remain in
bondage to that element, the effect of which is
to turn the inquiring away from the spiritual and
inward light, to the weak and beggarly elements
of outward formalism. We pray for such that
they may be enabled to arise from this bondage
when the day of their distress shall have been
fulfilled.

Brethren, our heart's desire, and prayer to
God for Israel is, that they might be saved.
May you as well as ourselves pick earnestly and
individually to know what it is that stands in
your way, and then for strength to overcome every
obstacle to your progress. On the purity [illegible]
of each heart. Which is the Holy of holies. The
Lord grant [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
the day of his coming, and who shall stand when
he appeareth. He shall sit as a refiner and
purifier of silver" and "He shall purify the sons
of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that

they may offer unto God an offering in righteousness."

With earnest desires for your welfare and preservation in the Truth, we are your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the London Yearly Meeting of Friends.

(Copy.)

The London Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at [illegible], [illegible], from the 6th of Fifth month, to the 8th of [illegible] inclusive, 1810.

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:

We have again been permitted by Divine providence, to meet in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, and while we are thus assembled together, the earnest breathings of our souls to God are, that a precious name will be preserved in this part of God's heritage, who will maintain the integrity of the ancient Fathers and Mothers of our race. O, that we may be more and more faithful to [illegible] testimony to the Truth.

We do desire that the dear young people, among you [illegible], may be like unto Elisha, that when asked of Elijah what he should do for him, his answer was: I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing; nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so. How desirous Elisha was to be near to Elijah O, that all among you and us, might be so earnest to follow the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls salvation, that the mantles which fell from the ancient standard-bearers that are passing away, may fall upon those that have been raised to receive them, by being so exercised to preserve a testimony that will remain faithful to the principles which we profess.

When the epistles were read in our meeting, with [illegible] hearts, showing that some of our members were

not diligent in the attendance of our mid-week meetings and those for discipline, a great desire was felt by [illegible] Friends among us, that all these might be encouraged to greater faithfulness from this time onward, and that all of us might double our diligence to make our calling and election sure.

When your excellent epistle, together with those from other yearly meetings with which we correspond, was read in our meeting, our hearts were filled with thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father for the blessings that come to us, by way of these written epistles from our friends in other parts of the land, who are of the same household of faith as ourselves. When we cannot have the privilege of meeting with our friends, face to face, as living epistles known & read of all men, it is very gratifying and comforting to us to be remembered by way of epistolary correspondence. A great concern has been felt by us, at this time, for all Friends, wherever situated, who are desirous of living up to the Truth as advocated by Fox, Barclay, Penington, Penn & other consistent Friends, and a General Epistle has been prepared to encourage these to greater faithfulness, and with us feel our, our strength and fortitude to be in Christ, and that unless the Lord shall help us, we shall labor in vain when we attempt to work for the good of others. Our heart-felt desire is that it may be so ordered that in some more favored ground, that will bring forth fruit to the glory of God.

Although our meeting this year, as usual, has been small as to numbers, yet we do feel that the Lord has indeed been with us, and has enabled us to transact the business of the Yearly Meeting in much harmony. O, that all might feel disposed to say: "If I forget thee, O, Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy."

Finally, dear friends, fare well and may

the Lord, the mighty God of Jacob, preserve you and us in unity of the Spirit and in true bond of Christian fellowship and brotherly love.

Signed, by direction and in behalf of the Yearly Meeting

Clerk

To Ohio Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends

The Committee appointed to correspondence with our little company is perhaps more than you fully realize and we realize the favor as an unmerited boon bestowed upon us, by an ever watchful and merciful Father who still regards the low estate of his tried and afflicted Children. That we remain members of the Church we count as such, has been our earnest desire and prayer at all times.

One after another of our dear friends who have become disheartened, & for them as members of the Church militant, are removed to the Church triumphant, & we leaving us stricken and bereft; and we have felt an engagement and travail of soul for our dear young people that they grow in the Truth, & encouraged in every good work, to labor in the Lords vineyard as he grants ability, that sisters of the Fathers grow in the Sons.

We greatly [illegible] your counsel and encouragement, and we feel with you in the [illegible] place of our meeting, for in the church militant is made us of the [illegible] influence for good in our Society and we desire to stay upon the Lord Jesus Christ, as revealed in the scriptures of truth, by the still small voice.

We [illegible] you, for you, in our [illegible]

[illegible] you in the petition, "Show the [illegible] Is [illegible] this writing [illegible] fault."

[illegible] heard with [illegible] and with [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westerly Rhode Island, Commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First day the 14th. of 6th. Month 1891, and on 2nd day Commencing the 15th. with those for discipline,

There accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings in advance — that the following named Friends have been appointed representatives to this Meeting, viz. from Rhode Island Thomas Ser., George Foster, Peter H. Foster, Edward Foster, Thomas H. Wilbur. From Sandwich Isaac P. Wilbur and James T. Tucker, to whom names having been called they were all present and answered thereto.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our beloved Friend Hannah H. Stratton with a certificate from New Garden Monthly Meeting of Friends held 4th. mo. 23rd 1891 & signed by Salem Quarterly Meeting, Ohio, liberating her to attend in the love of the Gospel New England and Canada Yearly Meetings; and also to attend some meetings by the way — and to appoint Meetings as way may open, She being a Minister in unity with them. Her Company and weighty Gospel labors have been truly strengthening and encouraging to us and the Clerk is directed to sign a Minute Commending prepared by the Women's Meeting.

We also have the acceptable company of our beloved friend Zachary Stratton, with a minute from New Garden Monthly Meeting of Friends, Ohio dated 4th. mo 23rd 1891, liberating him to accompany his wife, Hannah H. Stratton in her Gospel religious service, He is an aged, & infirm Minister, & his labors, Counsel and encouragement have been truly Comforting and Strengthening to us, And

the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute and sign it on our behalf.

We have received and read ~~and filed~~ at this time Epistles from our dear friends of Ohio, Western, Kansas and Canada Yearly meetings which have tendered, not a little to incite us to seek more earnestly for ability from the only true source, and have been a comfort and encouragement to us. We appoint our friends John Linda Foster, Jules S. Cadle, Jesse Jacket, John V. Foster Jonathan Howe and James H. Tucker to prepare extracts of epistles to the same and produce at a future sitting.

Thomas Perry, Isaac P. Wilson and Amos D. Foster are appointed to prepare a summary of the answers to the Queries and produce at the sitting this afternoon.

We appoint George L. Foster and James H. Tucker to examine and settle the accounts of the Treasurer of this meeting and to recommend a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year and report at a future sitting.

The representatives are requested to confer together at the close of this sitting, and agree upon a Friend to serve this meeting as Clerk, and another for assistant Clerk, and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon near the time adjourned to Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called they were all present.

George Foster, on behalf of the representatives

reference that the Men Friends together with the women Friends in proposing Silvanus Foster for Clerk and Job S. Gidley for assistant Clerk; and their names being seperately considered were united with, and they are appointed to those Stations respectfully for the ensuing year.

The State of Society was entered upon by the reading of the Queries and answers thereto from our Quarterly Meetings, and a Summary thereof having been prepared by the Committee appointed for that Service it was also read and directed to be recorded.

The deficiencies therein brought into view have caused Friends to feel and express a concern for a more faithfulness in the maintenance of all our Testimonies. That we sustain great loss in neglecting to attend our Meetings either for worship or discipline, and as a right concern is felt to worship ~~God~~ in Spirit we shall be preserved from giving way to sleep, and feel our hearts replenished with Love divine when thus assembled. And Friends were encouraged to a more frequent perusal of the Holy Scriptures, with their families collected, and their hearts turned inward to wait upon the Lord for his blessing. The feeling was also impressed that if faithfulness was abode in and all the concerned would submit to the preparing hand of God, and suffer him to come into their hearts as a refiner and purifier, we might yet become as a City set on a hill which could not be hid.

The records of the Meetings for Sufferings were laid before the Meeting at this time and read and approved, and a proposition having been made that the Friends now under appointment should be reappointed, it was united with; and the records and proposition having been laid before the before the women Meeting received their approval, and the same Friends are appointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings

for the ensuing year.

The subject alluded to in the minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings respecting the suit under the will of Joseph Pearne claiming the attention of the Meeting, it was concluded that the Yearly Meeting would, if necessary, assume the expense of defending the suit in case of a re-hearing before the Court.

Adjourned to the third hour 3d day afternoon the 16th

Third day afternoon the 16th met persuant to adjournment.

The names of the representatives being called they were all present and answered thereto.

The Committee appointed at a former sitting to examine and settle the accounts of the Treasurer and propose a friend for that service produced the following which is accepted by the Meeting, and Thomas Perry is appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's account present the following

We have examined the accounts of the Treasurer and find them correctly Kept and vouchers filed, and the balance now on hand is $1229 50/100 Dollars. We recommend that Thomas Perry be re-appointed Treasurer for the year ensuing.

Signed Joseph Foster on behalf of the Committee

The Committee appointed at our first sitting to peruse Essays of Epistles to the Yearly Meeting with the Minutes, Correspondence &c. and to direct such as the time in which were read and noted with, and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward

to three meetings respectively.

The Committee appointed last year to have in care the distribution of Friend's books and tracts have made the following report. Viz To the Grand Meeting Now Sitting

The Committee, appointed at our last grand Meeting to have the care of the distribution of Friends books and tracts report- That we have obtained of Jacob Snedley, of Philadelphia 3500 tracts at an expense of $9.75/100, and we have distributed a goodly number of the same, within the limits of our Grand Meeting and elsewhere. They have been kindly received and we trust that good will result therefrom. On behalf of the Committee

Arthur Perry Clerk

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting, and they are continued in that service another year, and encouraged to use suitable opportunities to distribute such publications,

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the minutes of this Meeting, and sign them on its behalf

The business which has claimed our attention has been conducted in a good degree of harmony and condescention. With some of us it has been a time of deep searching of heart, yet the feeling that the Lord continues to be mindful of us; in our stripped condition, is sweet, precious, and under a sense thereof we conclude, by proposing to meet at this place next year if consistent with the Divine will.

John W Foster Clerk

Summary Answers to Queries

Ans. 1st All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held except a few where a very few Friends reside. Those on First day are pretty well attended most of the time - mid-week Meetings and those for discipline much neglected by some of our members. The Queries observed by most Friends; a few instances of sleeping noticed, of other unbecoming behavior clear.

Ans 2d Love and unity are maintained and detraction guarded against, no differences have come to our knowledge

Ans. 3d There is a want of care manifest on the part of Parents in bringing up Children under their care in plainness of Speech behavior and apparel Some Friends are not as exemplary in these respects as we could wish. We believe most Friends have a care to restrain from pernicious reading and corrupt conversation, and we believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in their families.

Ans 4th Friends are reported to avoid the use of Spirituous liquors except for medicine, and are nearly clear of frequenting taverns and places of public resort. Clear as to the other parts of this query

Ans. 5th None among us requiring Pecuniary assistance. No Children placed from among Friends.

Ans. 6th Parents and heads of families are reported to be careful that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline

Ques 7th We think most Friends maintain our testimonies regarding the payment of priests wages, bearing arms training and other military matters, also respecting the other matters referred to in this query; except that some Friends attend meetings where a paid ministry is maintained

Ans. 8th We trust Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, that they are punctual to their promises, just in the payment of their debts, and endeavor to live within the bounds of their circumstances

Ques. 9th As we do not receive reports of our records of births deaths & a few births and deaths which should be if hands of us. To remove to within the limits of a Friends meeting without a certificate.

10th Friends appear to have a view to deal with offenders when necessary and to pass judgment according to discipline.

From the London Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Devizes, by adjournment from the 15th of 6th Mo. to the 16th of the same inclusive 1871.

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends

In the reading your excellent epistle, together with those from the other Yearly Meetings with which we are in correspondence, we were in our Yearly Meeting, our hearts were melted, tendered and filled with fondness love and solicitude for the welfare of Zion, and we were also made to feel that the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save neither his ear heavy that it cannot hear, but

fruitful fields offered us to the Prince of Peace by
all his sorrowing, trusting children in the different
walks of His heritage.

When the answers to the queries were read in our
meeting, showing forth our many blessings, we
were made sensibly to realize the great
responsibility resting upon all our members and
that we should ever be on the watch tower lest
the enemy sow tares amongst us. And there were
weighty and earnest appeals made by concerned
friends, that we be aroused to greater faithfulness.

And O, when it is well with you, pray for
us, that the little remnant that remains of us
may individually be brought forth, out of the
Wilderness where it would seem that we have
been left alone to wander these forty years, and
at times we have felt that the billows of
persecution and oppression would go over us. and
pray ye that our feet may be established upon
Christ Jesus the Rock of Ages, and that we may be
enabled to fight our battles, with weapons that indeed
are not carnal, under the banner of the Prince
of Peace;

Then indeed will our Church come forth
having on her Beloved, fair as the moon, clear as
the sun, and terrible as an army with banners,
then indeed will one be able to chase a thousand &
two flee thousand to flight.

We have with us at this time, friend from
abroad, whose feeling and true sympathy and labor
with us in the gospel, has been strengthening and
encouraging, and we can thus realize that God is
still able to send forth his chosen vessels to
proclaim the unsearchable riches of his kingdom
and to say unto the Lord the mighty God of Jacob
is around about us at this our annual meeting
for we remember that "the mountains are round
about Jerusalem so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth even forever."
And our hearts have been knit to his in

as it were, with a coal from God's holy altar
and we [illegible] that [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Friends, [illegible]
[illegible] Presence of [illegible]
may be near both you and us to preserve us and
keep us in the Way of His requiring.
Signed on behalf and by direction of the Yearly
Meeting.

(Copy)

To Ohio Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends

We is under a deep
sense of the inability of ourselves to write anything
that can benefit or comfort you that we address you
again. We are fearful lest we be considered
to meet to promote the business of our Yearly
Meeting, though some of our dear Friends
are pleased to say in the Letter from [illegible]
us.

The company of dear Friends from your Yearly
Meeting has tended much to strengthen and en-
courage us. We are so much united and have
for many years been deprived of the Presence of
[illegible] Yearly Meeting, [illegible]
Good Lord to help [illegible], [illegible] your
minds that the great Head of the Church is-
still mindful of his dear children, [illegible]
Men and encourages us as we are. We feel it
[illegible] the fulness of our Heavenly Father
and with regret relinquish [illegible]
You as Brethren [illegible]
Friends.

Persuaded we are that many among You
are [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] of the building up of the Church militant
and that [illegible] pillars to support it.
[illegible] and diligently upon
the unchangeable Rock of Ages Christ Jesus our

Lord and Saviour, and surely as His compassion faileth not, there is hope that many dear Friends among you may become pillars in His House, to go no more out.

We have been made renewedly sensible of our many short comings by the deficiency, at times, in the answering of our Queries and Friends have encouraged us to continue yet a little time in supporting our testimonies at all times.

Our very acceptable epistle with those from each Yearly Meeting with which we correspond have been encouraging and strengthening to us. In writing to them we do it in the spirit of fellowship in the Gospel of our blessed Lord, and we can say, as for his disciples of old, knowing your thoughts and feelings respecting our condition and that love we bear towards one another, we trust it is in a measure of the love of God.

We read in the Holy Scriptures that God is love and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God and God in him.

While waiting that reverence to the still small voice in the secret of the heart which, by giving that perfect love which casteth out fear, it is precious through the Son is experienced by love to our souls, in every dispensation, however humbling and painful it may seem to us while passing through it

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not walk in darkness, but have the light of life. We feel an especial concern to encourage the dear young Friends among you to come up in their day and to fear the Lord and maintain plain dress, using the plain language and conforming to the simplicity and consistency in their day. When these testimonies for the simplicity of life are made light of by many, it is very probable that every thing short of a clear sense of duty will prompt you to a deviation such, a

in the quiet and cross bearing life.

We are sensible that as from our part the love, yet we believe the anointing of the Holy Spirit will daily flow forth and enable us to realize the preciousness of the words of our Saviour in the midst of suffering and reproach.

"My peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you." In this language may also be included all those other precious promises — if we rightly ask as we would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you; and if I go and prepare a place for you I will come again and receive you unto myself that "where I am, there ye shall be also."

With a salutation of love, we remain Your friends.

(Copy.)

From New England Yearly Meeting of Friends [illegible] 1891.

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:—

We have been comforted [illegible] encouraged [illegible] the reading of the Epistle from our Yearly Meeting with which we are united.

Though our lots are cast in widely separated portions of the land yet by these kindly greetings are we brought into a realizing sense that there are others besides ourselves who seek that City whose builder and Maker the Lord is.

Though many discouragements and trials meet us in our path way, yet are we made sensible to realize that all things work together for good to those who love God, to them who are called according to his purpose.

Pray that we be enabled through the power of his grace to [illegible] the path of our Master, "Pray that ye enter not into temptation, for the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak."

When we are brought to feel his everlasting love in as much as he invites us while we are, "Aliens from the Commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the Covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the World," and draws we with our hearts melted humbly before him he enabled to declare, surely goodness and mercy have followed us all the days of our lives.

We feel much the absence of many loved ones who have been with us at this our Annual Meeting and who have been earnest in maintaining the integrity of the Faith and Order in our Church, but infirmities have increased upon them by the infirmities of age and we do fully realize that but a short time will elapse before these will be called from works to rewards, and may there be brought forth amongst us Elishas that will be willing to take up the mantles that fall from the Elijahs.

We pray with us, dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings whose presence lends greatly to encourage us and to make us feel that we are not forgotten by the Great Head of the Church seeing that he has put it into the hearts of these to visit us at this time, and their company and gospel labor amongst us have tended to revive our drooping spirits, and we trust will draw us up to greater faithfulness, and may we more and more turn unto him who sent them forth that we might be fed oftener than the returning morning with that spiritual manna that alone will refresh those who are hungering and thirsting after righteousness. When the enemies were made to come forth in many deficiencies amongst us, how deeply we were made to feel that God alone is able to pluck our feet out of the mire and the clay and to establish our goings, for without

He is tender love and care over us we should be [illegible] undone forever.

Therefore we feel engaged to exhort that the Lord may raise up Judges, as at the first and Counsellors as at the beginning throughout the length and breadth of the land and enable them to rebuild the walls of Zion upon the alone sure foundation and to proclaim the [illegible] and Sons thereof unto thy Heritage. Amen.

(Copy.)

From New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Newport (R. I.) by adjournment from 14th to 17th of 6th mo. 1891.

To Norra Yearly Meeting of Friends;

Beloved Friends;

Though we are separated from you as to the outward, and but very few of us have ever met any of you face to face, yet we are warmly sensible of a stream of love and sympathy which though unseen, yet flows between us. In the unity of such love, which we believe can not be limited by outward circumstances nor measured by the things of this world, we again salute you, earnestly desiring your preservation, as well as our own, in the ancient faith of our fathers.

We are more and more persuaded as we travel on through life, journey of the church of our profession as a religious body, earnestly desiring that we may come to feel and to know that which was lost, as our Forefathers and from the promises of their day into the glorious light of spiritual things but we their successors, while we have a live succession of these things, are yet weak and frail and do err exceedingly; so that we are led to cry at all times to the [illegible] "Have mercy upon me O Lord, have mercy."

We are all a chosen and loved people of a day which has once passed in faith and patience

[illegible] we have [illegible] we are [illegible] a law in the [illegible] have passed on, a feeling of loneliness has been [illegible] fashion, and of late we have come to see, that [illegible] by attempting to keep up an organized body with so humble a following, we might possibly [illegible] the cause of Truth.

On account of these things, many the faith of many has failed and they have walked no more with us; and the Fathers also have passed away, not beholding the fruition of their hopes, nor [illegible] by letter, from the Brethren of our faith. We learned that "our holy and beautiful house where our fathers praised Thee, is burned up by fire, and all our pleasant things are laid waste" that "though Thou hast been sore displeased with us, yet Israel acknowledge us not."

Under these discouraging circumstances we can only wait, relying upon the promise of the Lord, "to comfort all that mourn, to appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness."

We believe we have something like that love and faith and charity, the peculiar quality of which is, that while some is spared to others, there is an increased portion remaining to those who labor; and whether this be so or not, we send our loving greeting to you, and prayerfully desire for you the blessing of our Father who is in Heaven.

We invite you [illegible] to [illegible] in the [illegible] of your [illegible], praying with humility that he [illegible] you [illegible] to [illegible] with [illegible] of His spirit. We also believe that yearly meeting sessions should be highly prized and great effort be made to attend them, for we find in our own experience that the tendering influences of such times work powerfully upon the head, and cement together the body in unity, and

[illegible] increase of our strength and faith is thus experienced.

Our longing love has at times gone out toward those who are professing our name, but who are yet being carried further and further away from the original simplicity of our spiritual worship into the bondage out of which our forefathers came many years ago; and to these our especial sympathy has been reached, to flow but where has seemed to be but little responsibility in such. While the great changes have been going on among those who claim our name, our part in the East has seemed to be indicated by the language of the scripture "Come my people, enter thou into thy chambers and shut thy doors about thee, hide thyself as it were for a little moment until the indignation be overpast."

But unto those who are carrying away Israel captive and wasting his [illegible] language [illegible] peculiable, "Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim whose glorious beauty is a fading flower. The crown of pride, the drunkards of Ephraim shall be trodden under foot; and the glorious beauty which is on the head of the fatty shall be a fading flower, and as the hasty fruit before the summer."

Finally dear friends, we bid you farewell with earnest desires for your preservation in all that is good.

Copy.

From the [illegible] yearly meeting of [illegible] held at Westby C.W. by adjournment from the 15th of 6th mo. to the 18th of June inclusive 1879.

To Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends

By the reading of your acceptable Epistle of 6th month last you were [illegible] to our [illegible] desires were raised for you, that you might be enabled to continue a [illegible] Friends

[illegible] to interfere with
[illegible] your minds and have its benign influence.
May you continue to seek to be established upon Christ
Jesus the Rock of our Salvation, against which all the
assaults and [illegible] of the enemy will be in
vain. We have an unwearied adversary who is ever
seeking to draw us away from our dependence on the
Blessed Jesus. It is very needful for us to watch
unto prayer, that we be not led in to the unwatching mood
[illegible] to his disciples to "Watch and pray
lest ye enter into temptation". How very needful
their, that we also should watch that we be
not [illegible] aside. Why, there is so much to
[illegible] the unwary [illegible] on every hand,
[illegible] under the specious [illegible] during a
greater abounding of Gospel Light and Spirituality.

We have at this time received Epistles from the
Yearly Meetings with which we correspond and they
were truly welcome and acceptable to us.
They all evince an desire for the growth and
[illegible] of our blessed Truth, and seek to encourage
us to be steadfast to the ever blessed Faith.
[illegible] That there may be an increasing faithfulness in
each individual allotment, for without faithfulness
in the individual members, the Society cannot
prosper. If the walls of our Zion, are ever again
rebuilt in their first strength and beauty, the work
must be done under God, through individual faith-
fulness, each building over against his own house.
It is also through individual faithfulness in
doing what ever is required of us that we shall
ever be enabled, through Divine help to work out for
ourselves our own souls salvation. The neglected
and [illegible] coming of Christ cannot excuse our own
unfaithfulness. I fear when others failing will
not help us in our journey Zionward.
But rather may we adopt the resolution of Joshua
"Let others do as they may, as for me and my house
We will serve the Lord." Although we feel that we

are the least of the tribe, yet in all humility and thankfulness we desire to acknowledge the goodness of Israels unslumbering Shepherd that He has at this season made His presence to be known and felt amongst us to the tendering of our hearts, and to our great encouragement. Let us then like Jacob of old, wrestle for the blessing, If we are worthy, we shall surely obtain it, if we faint not.

With this entreatance of love we remain your friends.

At our Yearly Meeting for New England held at Westerly R.I. Commencing with Public Meeting for worship on First day the 12th. of Sixth Month 1892 and on 2d day morning the 13th. with those for discipline.

Accounts have been received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings and the Friends named therein to represent them in this Meeting are John H. Foster, George Foster, Thomas Perry, John Barclay Foster, Thomas K. Wilbur and Gabriel C. Foster, from Sandwich Isaac P. Wilbur, Jessie Tucker, John J. Wilbur and Job S. Gidley; whose names having been called they were all present and answered thereto.

We have received and read at this time Epistles from Ohio Western, Canada, Iowa and Kansas Yearly Meetings, which have been instructive, comforting and encouraging to us and we appoint our friends George Foster, Jonathan Chace, Job S. Gidley, Jessie Tucker J. Barclay Foster, John H. Foster and James H. Tucker, to prepare essays of Epistles thereto, if our minds should open for such

Service, and produce at a future Sitting

Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting has informed this Meeting that owing to changes in the situation among Friends at Pawtucket it is not deemed best to continue holding their Meetings there as formerly in the Second and Sixth months, but hereafter to hold them all in Westerly, which is concurred in by this Meeting and the Clerk is directed to furnish them with a copy of this Minute.

John F. Wilbur and Thomas Perry are appointed to prepare a Summary of the answers to the Queries and produce at our Sitting this afternoon.

We appoint George Foster Jones A. Tucker and Silas Burr to examine and settle the Treasurer's account, prepare a Minute for Treasurer and report at a future Sitting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this Sitting and agree upon a Friend to serve this Meeting as Clerk and another for assistant Clerk and report at the opening of the Sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the 4th. hour this afternoon

Second day afternoon about the time adjourned to Friends again assembled

The names of the representatives being called they were all present except one

John Comstock Foster on behalf of the representatives reported that they had met and were united in proposing the same

of John G. Foster for Clerk, and Job S. Gidley for Assistant Clerk. Their names were separately considered and united with and they are appointed to those stations respectively for the ensuing year.

The State of Society was entered upon by the reading of the Queries and answers thereto from our Monthly Meetings, and a summary thereof having been prepared by the Committee appointed to that service it was read and directed to be recorded. During the consideration of this State of Society as brought to our attention by the reading of the queries and answers, we were introduced into a lively concern for an examination of our hearts individually, that we might come to realize the cause of our unfaithfulness.

The blessings which would result from attending all our Meetings both for worship and discipline was alluded to, as well as the loss sustained by an omission of this duty. Friends were also engaged in a concern that our testimony against a hireling Ministry might be kept up; and that Ministers might take greater care to wait for and feel a fresh anointing on each successive occasion before engaging in the important and weighty service of the gospel Ministry, and that unless such is the case our Meetings for Divine worship will fail to produce that lively concern of mind which is profitable and instructive to humble waiting souls.

The committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers account and to propose a Friend for Treasurer, have performed the following - Viz The committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers account and propose a Friend for Treasurer, have attended to that service. They find the account correctly kept and proper vouchers filed. The balance on

hand is Twelve hundred fifty Seven and forty six one hundredths Dollars $1.257.46/100 They recommend the appointment of Thomas Perry to serve this Meeting as Treasurer for the ensuring Year.

Signed on behalf of the Committee by

James A Tucker

6th. Mo. 13. 1892

Which is approved by this Meeting, and Thomas Perry is reappointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuring year

The Minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings, having been laid before this Meeting at this time were read & united with

It was proposed and united with that the same friends be reappointed; and the records and proposition having been laid before the womens Meeting was approved by them, and it is considered that the friends now under appointment should constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing.

Adjourned to the 3d hour third day afternoon the 14th.

Third day afternoon the 14th. met pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the representatives being called they were all present.

The Committee appointed at our first Sitting to prepare, if way should open for it, Essays of replies to the Epistles from other Yearly Meetings have produced such at this time which were read and approved, and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward to those Meetings respectively.

The Committee appointed two years ago and continued last year to have the care of procuring and distributing Friends books

and tracts, make the following report. viz
To the 4th mo. Meeting now sitting.
Several thousand tracts and a number of books have been obtained from the Tract Depository at Phila. at an expense of $48.00; a large proportion of which have been been distributed. They have been kindly and thankfully received; a number of the recipients expressing their appreciation of them.
On behalf of the Committee
Geo. G. Foster Clerk

Portsmouth 6th mo. 14th 1892.
Which is satisfactory to this Meeting, and the same Friends are continued another year and encouraged to use suitable efforts to promote the object of their appointment.
The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the minutes of this Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

Friends of Sandwich Quarterly Meeting in view that there is a prospect of selling their Meeting house in New Bedford, before another year as permitted by the Yearly Meeting for Suffering.
Have therefore request that liberty may be given them to hold their Meetings at North Dartmouth
Permission is hereby given by this Meeting to make the Change desired at such time as their Quarterly Meeting may direct

The business which has claimed our attention has been completed, and we have been favored to act in harmony and brotherly condescension and in conclusion we feel in our spirits and hearts condition, to commemorate the loving kindness of our Heavenly Father to us, for all his mercies and thanksgiving for his presence and thus renewing our confidence in His gracious care.
John W. Foster, Clerk

Answers to Queries - Summary

Ans. 1st All our meetings for religious worship and discipline, in Redland have been held. Some other small meetings are not regularly kept up. Those on first days are pretty well attended. mid-week Meetings and those for discipline neglected by some Friends. The hour is observed by most of our members, & few instances of sleeping, or other unbecoming behaviour clear

Ans 2d Love and unity pretty well maintained and detractive spirit guarded against. Two differences have appeared amongst us.

Ans. 3d Friends are some care and are desirous of bringing up their children in plainness of speech behaviour and apparel, and to restrain them from pernicious reading and corrupt conversation, although some care in these respects would be desirable some Friends are remiss herein themselves and we believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in their families.

Ans. 4th Friends avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine - yet there may be one exception — also the unnecessary frequenting frequenting of taverns and places of public resort, and keep in consideration on all occasions

Ans. 5th. Friends friends are present in circumstances to need assistance. No Friends Children placed from among Friends

Ans. 6th. We think parents and heads of families feel a concern that our testimonies with respect to marriage should be conformable to our discipline, & that the young and mistaken are to be reminded herein. Care has been extended in such case.

Ans. 7th. Friends maintain a testimony against a hireling ministry, bearing arms and the several other Testimonies held in this connexion; Have no cause of attending meetings other than to worship God.

Ans. 8th. We think Friends inspect their affairs and settle their accounts and that they are punctual to their promises and just in the payment of their debts and endeavour to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9th. Marriages, births deaths and burials are recorded when handed in, but there is a neglect on the part of some in furnishing the necessary information to the Clerk. No Friends within the limits of our Monthly Meeting without certificates.

Ans. 10th. Friends endeavour to deal with offenders in the Spirit of Love & Meekness and visitations of Overseers & Ministers, & if necessary, disown, & to place judgment according to discipline. Do not see that we have been remiss in these respects.

To Consider [illegible] Visiting of Friends:

Dear Friends:

We could look only at our weak and stricken condition, but we should feel that our [illegible] to continue in communion with the Head of the Church [illegible]; but in our [illegible] that if we [illegible] look to him and through infinite condescension still afforded us, we grow weaker and weaker. Sometimes we marvel that the God of our life whose love abode in plenty - and the arms of whose hands were made strong by the mighty God of Jacob, should be withdrawn the [illegible] overtaken us and we were ready to say our [illegible].

It is a [illegible] and we [illegible] in greater watchfulness unto prayer, and closer reliance on the smallest manifestation of duty however much in the cross to our [illegible]. Your epistle of tenderly love has been comforting and encouraging to us, as well as those from [illegible] whom we correspond. They contain much that should stimulate us to hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end.

Indeed we are persuaded that these Yearly Epistles from our friends were called to stir up our minds and caused us to fervently seek Him who is the support of our fathers. We have remembered that they only became [illegible] by obedience to His holy will as revealed in their hearts by His spirit from time to time. Truly their [illegible] peaceable and flowery [illegible]; some of them in the [illegible] by sea as well as [illegible] and [illegible] among the [illegible].

Limitations of the [illegible] to be resisted and [illegible] were revealed to them ere they became exposed to [illegible] for the people, and often to reach the unsearchable riches of Christ. They also found it needful to be emptied again and again that only fresh supplies from the living fountain should be handed to the people. We are therefore encouraged by these considerations and by your epistle of love to come boldly

to the throne of grace that we may find help in time of need, and I am persuaded you realize that all your fresh springs are in Him the Great minister of the Sanctuary of the true tabernacle which the Lord hath pitched and not man.

We feel to encourage you, who like us, have passed through many painful trials, to not cast away your confidence which hath great recompence of reward.

For ye have need of patience that after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

In this day of great business enterprise when the stimulus of emulation causes so many to place undue importance upon worldly success, it behooves us all to be on the watch lest the things of this world choke the good seed and it bring no fruit to perfection.

Time is so uncertain and our continuance in mortality but a brief period, even to the longest life that we may well pause and consider the language — "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul; or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul".

Though our little country in Old England may be in more danger, according to man's reckoning, than our dear Friends in Canada, yet none of us are safe unless engaged day by day to cleave close to that power which can preserve in every situation in life and be unto us as a garden enclosed. When you are permitted to experience a near access to the throne of grace remember us in your petitions that none of us (because of our weak condition) may turn back and walk no more with our Lord but in the way of his leadings: but may we be enabled truly to say unto Him, Draw me we will run after thee. The words of Etienne Grellet

With the salutations of love we remain Your friends.

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends—

We have been once more permitted through

[illegible] to meet in our annual capacity

[illegible] to [illegible] to [illegible]

[illegible] to [illegible], feeling as it were, [illegible] a

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the

once highly favoured condition of this part of the Lord's

heritage, we have often been led to exclaim,

"[illegible] are they, and the fields do they

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and

deed" Sometimes we have yet been through the favour of the

great Head of the Church enabled to transact its

[illegible] [illegible] to the [illegible] of truth

in a good degree of harmony and christian condescension.

We have been at times grieved

[illegible] and fallen condition of this once

highly favoured society is due to a want of individual

[illegible] [illegible] to the Universal

and saving light which alone can guide into all

truth.

"This is the Seal common to the souls of all men

[illegible] in the kingdom of God revealed and which

we stand in need of that is the gift of the office

of the Christ to enrich it" and to encourage and

lead all to become truly living members that they

may in truth declare "Wherefore henceforth know we

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in Christ

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and

behold all things are become new.

We [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the

[illegible] of your [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that

[illegible] with [illegible] received your [illegible] Yearly

Meetings on the Continent, judging after that the

[illegible] of the Church were [illegible] and indeed

[illegible] one of another and that it so good that they

should thus speak often to each other.

These words of encouragement have added a little

to our hope [illegible] we may be in your right places in

this our day and generation, although in great weakness, yet delight to carry on the work in meetings and Conferences, these more often we (if not met) by one or two of Church gathering and Conference, when the Church should come out of the wilderness and the people should flock unto her as doves to their windows, and our earnest desire for ourselves and for you is, that we may continue to be found standing in our right places as living stones, that every thing which is disunited & ill compatible may be removed with speed. Such is the wish of your friends

To the Quarterly Meetings of Friends held at Hardy N. S. on the 12th and 14th of 6th Mo. 1892.

To Lower Hardy Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends

In weakness, few and much troubling we met to transact the business of our Society, in a time of deep exercise and solemnity, we do feel that our Quarterly Meetings are favoured seasons, we desire our coming together at this time, and we are fresh reminded that if we do not implicit trust in Him, he will not bless us. In the first Church after the pentecostal, it is said of the Christians, "they continued with one accord in one place" and it would be well if individual Churches were to pray to be found of like precious faith, assembled together to be of one mind & one heart, seeking the Lord in prayer & supplication, that we might be more fitted for Heaven and our fellow men, which would enable us to say, Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over; we would also encourage you

[illegible] Meetings, with which we correspond
[illegible] and we [illegible] the sweet feeling may
[illegible] us; feeling that it is [illegible]
by which Friends are brought into greater unity one
with [illegible].

[illegible] our many shortcomings, we were made to
realize that we have no might nor strength of our
own, and a great solemnity came over our meeting
[illegible] and concealed tears of contrition and confession were
expressed by concerned friends that there might be
more individual searching of heart, that we attain
to greater faithfulness in our being witnesses
for the truth in the land that others seeing our
[illegible] may [illegible]

Dear Friends, finally, we pray you unite
in fervent desires that He is able to give
us ability and strength to perform all that He
requires at our hands.

Signed by direction and on behalf of Yearly
Meeting of Friends.

[illegible]

To the Quarterly Meeting of Friends
[illegible]

Dear Friends,

We feel that we can
[illegible] by every true disciple of our
Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ done for us at
this time to address you.
Dear Friends, Love, Love bringing, bringing
to us tokens of love and tenderness, in
our weak and tried condition was comforting
and Encouraging, and when this was dealt

in our meeting together with those from the other Yearly Meetings while we corresponded, we were led to realize that we have no strength of our own, but that all our blessings come from Him & it is right to give Him the praise & honor that is due unto Him, in Christ Jesus our Lord alone. The time of the reading of the epistle was indeed a favored season, long to be remembered we trust by our little company. Truly was it a precious evening over the nations, that the messages of love brought to us by these Jewish brethren seemed to fall upon the assembly like dews & incense coming from Heaven.

Earnest desires were expressed that this spirit of communion & love might not be kept within but that it might also be extended & could this be one of the means of bringing all of the true household of faith into fellowship,

On the dark waters of the Division of the church when Paul & Barnabas & those on their side, preaching the gospel of circumcision, there arose a dissention & "no small disputation," & the Apostles and Elders came together to consider the matter," and a epistle was written and sent to Antioch, and when they had gathered the multitude together they delivered the epistle, which when they had read they rejoiced for the consolation," And although nearly twenty Centuries have elapsed since this first Epistle was written under the Gospel dispensation, of which we have many records, nevertheless when we listen to Epistles written in the life, we are made to rejoice for the consolation," Here again we are made to feel that our trials & pains are not useless things which are of no account, such as it has pleased the Great Head of the Church to send His anointed servants to in other Yearly Meetings, among us, and their preaches and labors of love

[illegible] weak command is that the Lord
[illegible] is not slacking that it cannot
[illegible] save, neither his ear heavy that it cannot
hear" the feeblest petitions of his dependent
children. The words of the Prophet
[illegible] time, at this time seem strongly brought
to our remembrance. "Bring all the tithes
into the storehouse that there may be meat in
mine house and prove me therewith now
saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not
pour out a blessing, that there shall
not be room enough to receive it."

While we have been prone to sit
down for a time, as it were in heavenly places
in Christ Jesus, we are reminded of our
[illegible] shortcomings and deficiencies
When the answers to queries were read,
setting there forth, a great concern was felt
for our welfare, and many weighty testimonies
were given by the ministering friends from
with us and by the concerned friends, encour-
aging all of us to greater faithfulness, that
the ancient testimonies of Truth might be
maintained among us, especially was this
the case in regard to our members attending
places of worship where a hireling ministry was
maintained, when they are invited from meeting
to meeting, and to such as there were exhorted to
gather into the quiet in their own homes and
wait for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
upon them, Parents and heads of families
were earnestly entreated to be more zealously
engaged in bringing up their children and
those under their care in plainness of speech
behaviour and apparel.

Dear Friends, farewell and now as our and we
[illegible] of the same household of faith, may we
[illegible] in communion with him who is the root
and offspring of David, that it may please

[illegible] Heaven is [illegible] drawn by the [illegible] ends
of a [illegible] one into one entire body, that the [illegible] one in
the different [illegible] of the [illegible] virtues, who feel that the
home or place of [illegible] to which they [illegible]
flock to unite [illegible]

Since in direction and on behalf of [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] of friends

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westerly R. Island, commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First day the 1st. of Sixth month 1893. And on Second day morning the 12th. with three for discipline.

Accounts have been received from Rhode Island and Dartmouth Quarterly Meeting, by which we are informed that the following named friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting. Viz Jonathan Chace, George Baxter, Thomas Perry, John W. Baxter, Isaac B. Baxter, and John Gordon Rodd from Rhode Island, and Isaac D. Wilbur, Jesse Tucker, James H. Tucker and Job. A. Gidley from Dartmouth Quarterly Meeting - whose Names, having been called, there were all present and answered thereto, except one.

Our beloved Friend Archibald Crosbie attended this Meeting with a minute from Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends South, endorsed by their Quarterly Meeting informing that he is a minister in unity with them, and liberating him to visit in the love of the Gospel this Meeting, composing New England Yearly Meeting; and if way opened for it, attend some of the Meetings of North Carolina Yearly Meeting; and also to hold Public Meetings among Friends and others in the course of that service; and on the way going and returning, as Truth may open the way. His company and gospel labors have been comforting, encouraging and strengthening to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

Our friend Joseph S. Elkinton attended this Meeting with a minute from the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia held 6th mo. 1893 liberating him to visit in Gospel love some portions of the New England States, to attend some of the Meetings under its care and to appoint some such Meetings as may be opened, and also liberating him to attend Meetings with others. His Companion and Gospel labors have been very encouraging and strengthening to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

Our beloved friend Joseph Walton attended this Meeting with a minute from Chester Monthly Meeting of Friends New Jersey liberating him to accompany Jas. S. Elkinton in his proposed religious services. He being an Elder in unity with them. His company, solid deportment and services have been acceptable and comforting to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

We have received and read at this time Epistles from Ohio, Canada, Western, Kansas and Canada Yearly Meetings, fraught with Gospel love, and some of them have in an especial manner animated us to endeavor to press forward through Holy help, even unto the end of the race. And we appoint our friends Jesse Ingle, John W. Foster, Edward B. Gibbs, J. Barclay Foster, James M. Ingle, Isaac P. Wilson to read these Epistles there, as may open for it, and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

Jesse Ingle and Thomas Kimber are appointed to prepare a summary of statements to this Meeting and present it at our Sitting this afternoon.

Were appointed Gro. B. Foster and James F. Wilbor to examine and settle the Treasurer's account, to propose a fine for Treasurer and report at a future sitting.

The Representatives are requested to confer together at the close of this sitting and conclude upon a suitable friend to serve the meeting as Clerk and another for assistant Clerk, and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Fourth day afternoon, about the time adjourned to friends again assembled.

The names of the Representatives being called they were present as at our forenoon sitting.

Isaac P. Wilbor on behalf of the Representatives informed the Meeting that they had met, and were united in proposing John I. Foster for Clerk and Jacob G. Wilbor for assistant Clerk, and that names being separately considered were united with, and they are appointed to those stations respectively for the ensuing year.

The Queries have been read at this time with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Providence Quarterly Meeting and a summary thereof having been prepared by the friends appointed for that purpose at our forenoon sitting, it was also read and directed to be recorded.

In considering the State of Society as brought to view by the reading of the queries and answers thereto Friends were distressed and sorrowful, and the minds of some in an especial manner were brought under deep and painful exercise, and a feeling was impressed that when met for divine worship, it is our duty to gether as in Spirit unto the Lord to crave his design to be in our midst, and preserve us from wandering thoughts and drowsiness, and break bread from his blessed table to the nourishing our souls alive and helping in spiritual travail for the prosperity of Zion and the enlargement of her borders. Such exercise was felt and communicated that Friends should not by attending meeting where a paid minister is sometimes, set aside our testimony to the spiritual character of divine worship. If we are principally engaged to enter into communion with our crucified, risen and glorified Lord we shall not feel inclined to seek for the entertainment or excitement, of more intellectual or emotional nature; the worship acceptable and well pleasing to God, are a broken heart and a contrite Spirit. These our Holy head and High Priest will not despise; and as we come into a true settlement upon the foundation of the Prophets and Apostles, Jesus Christ himself being the Chief corner stone, we shall feel our souls reverently prostrate where alone satisfies the immortal soul.

Adjourned to the third hour 3d day afternoon the 12th.

Third day afternoon the 12th met pursuant to adjournment

The committee appointed to examine and settle Treasurers account, and name a fit

for Treasurer have produced the following
viz/

The Committee appointed to examine and settle Treasurers account and to propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer. have attended to that service.

They find the account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed. The balance on hand is $\$14.28\frac{99}{100}$.

They recommend the appointment of Thomas Penn to serve the Meeting as Treasurer for the ensuing year

Signed 6th mo. 13. 1894

On behalf of the committee
George L. Foster

The report is satisfactory to the meeting, and Thomas Penn is reappointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were laid before the meeting at this time and read to our satisfaction.

It was proposed and united with to reappoint the same friends as last year with the addition of the name of Sarah B. Wilson and they are appointed to constitute a meeting for Sufferings the ensuing year; having the unity of the women's Meeting herein

The Committee appointed in 1890 and continued from year to year to have the care of inventing and disinventing Friends Books & Tracts have produced the following report. viz.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

During the past year several thousand Tracts were obtained from the Tract Depository at Philadelphia, a considerable

a number of which have been distributed and many
more in reserve. A number of copies of the
Journal of George Fox and of biographical sketches
of Friends have also been handed to those whom it
was thought might read them and be profited thereby
Westfield 6th mo. 13 1894

On behalf of the Committee
Geo. L. Foster Clerk

Which is satisfactory to the meeting, and it is concluded
to reappoint the same Friends another year - with
the addition of E. A. E. Terry and Anna M. Gardner,
and they are encouraged to use proper efforts to place
Friends books & Tracts in the hands of others, especially
as an opening is seen for their distribution.

The committee appointed at our sitting
yesterday morning to prepare, as way opened for it, essays of replies to the Epistles received from
the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond
have had under their care at this time, addressed to
Ohio, Canada, Western, Kansas and Iowa
Yearly Meetings. Which were read and approved
and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and
forward to those bodies respectively.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary
extracts from the minutes of this meeting
and sign them on its behalf

We have now finished the business which
has brought us together, and we think it
has been conducted in a good degree of
harmony and brotherly condescention, and
with feelings of thankfulness we are led to
commemorate the mercies, mercy and
goodness of our Heavenly Father in a time
of breaking bread amongst us, and under this
feeling conclude, now purposing to meet

at this place next year if consistent with the Divine will

John H. Foster Clerk

Answers to Queries — Summary

Ans. 1 All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held. Some other small Meetings are not regularly kept up. Those on first day are pretty well attended, midweek Meetings and those for discipline neglected by some Friends. The hour is observed by most of our members. A few instances of sleeping at times, of other unbecoming behaviour also.

Ans. 2 Love and unity are pretty well maintained and detraction guarded against. No differences have appeared amongst us.

Ans. 3. Friends use some care, and we trust are desirous to bring up those under their direction in plainness of speech behaviour and apparel — to restrain them from pernicious reading and corrupt conversation, although more care in these respects would be desirable. Some Friends are examplary herein themselves, and we believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in their families.

Ans 4. Friends avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine (yet there may be one exception) also the unnecessary frequenting of public places, and keep in moderation and temperance on all occasions.

Ans. 5. There are no Friends at present in circumstances that need assistance. We only all Children have the opportunity in the public

Schools to acquire an inclination to fit them for business
& so Friends Children are placed from among Friends

Ans 6. We think parents and heads of families feel a concern that our testimonies with respect to marriage should be conformable to our discipline; but the young and unmarried are too remiss herein, Care has been extended in such cases

Ans. 7th Friends maintain a testimony against a hireling ministry, bearing arms, and are careful in the several other matters inquired in this query, except some cases of attending meeting where a hired ministry is maintained

Ans. 8. We think Friends inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, and that they are punctual to their promises, just in the payment of their debts, and endeavor to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9 Marriages, births, deaths and burials are recorded when handed in, but there is a neglect of some Friends in furnishing in furnishing the necessary information to the clerk. & removals within the limits of a Friends Meeting without certificates.

Ans. 10 Friends endeavor to deal with offenders in the Spirit of meekness and wisdom, without partiality or unnecessary delay and to place judgment according to discipline, yet there may be some remissness in these respects.

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To the Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends

We have been permitted to again assemble in our wonted place of meeting, and although coming together under a sense of our weakness and discouragement, we may humbly acknowledge the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly Father in that he has condescended in his condescending kindness to give us to take a little of the good things which fall from his bountiful hand, and to drink of the refreshing streams of his love, which like the waters of Siloah flow softly.

Your acceptable Epistle of the Month last has been received, and the reading of it, together with the Epistles from other Yearly Meetings, in correspondence with us, was to our comfort and edification, as a precious feeling of Extract, in which we desired in a measure to partake of the blessings which the Great Head of the Church has been pleased to bestow upon us.

May we not be unmindful of these seasons of Divine visitation, but seek to keep our hearts open to see the sweet influence of our Heavenly Father's love, wherever he may see meet to bestow it as a blessing upon us. And O! may we not be tempted by the unstable things of this world, that we shall be compared to the heath in the desert and shall not see when good cometh.

We have at this time the company of several Ministering Friends from other Yearly Meetings in our Borders, encouraging to us, and we desire that their labors of love may not be in vain in our Land, but that we may be quickened up to greater diligence in serving the Lord, and in attending to the things that pertain to our

own salvation. In this day of commotion when tyranny, wrapped under our feet, is endeavouring to find vent in other ways into that liberty & revelation we seek, than by the way of the cross, the strait and narrow way, it behooves all to be upon the watch lest their pleasable & pliant spirits bring an entrance into our hearts. There is no other way, there can be no other way but by Christ the door into the sheepfold. All who seek an entrance in any other way are thieves and robbers. We know, if we are led into the fullness of a crucified, and risen Lord, take his yoke upon us and learn from him, as he is pleased to teach us in the operation of his Spirit in our hearts. This is the way in which the unlearning man though ignorant of the wisdom of and learning of the world ... is become wise and learned in the knowledge that cometh from above. Dear Friends, we believe it to be an important part of the mission of our Society in the world, to shine that our lives may be as shining lights before men that seeing our good works may glorify our Father who is in Heaven. How needful then, it is that in our daily walk and conversation with the world we do not by wrong or unfaithfulness let our testimonies fall to the ground. They were left to us as a sacred trust which it is our duty & privilege to support and maintain.

With the salutation of love we remain your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends

To the Conjoint Yearly Meeting of Friends
held at Sterling, Rice Co. Kansas, Fifth Month,
12th and 13th, 1893.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends;—

Having once more met together in our
... meeting, we earnestly desire to
... things, that we may be baptized with
... Holiness of the Holy Spirit and taught
to know something of that blessed spiritual
... which may be perceived only by those
... willing to follow our Friend & Guide
whithersoever he leads. And desires
Your have been brought afresh to our remembrance
and near to our hearts by the reading of your
... Yearly Meeting, and we
... with the fellowship of that faith
... which, we certainly believe, is not by the
... of man, but by the power of Infinite
Goodness, even the Arm of the Lord of Hosts.

We all together, in much humbleness and under
... discouragements, few in numbers and
... few by years as the fathers
... the light of our mortal eyes
... their counsel and encouragement is gone
from us. Yet we still earnestly desire to be
found in our proper places and realize that any
... have our present Friends, have been
... with the weak and beggarly elements
... some seem to desire to be in bondage
... Who now claim the name of our society
... totally departed from the principles and
practices. "They went out from us but they were
not of us, for if they had been of us, they would
no doubt have continued with us; but they went
out that they might be made manifest that they
were not all of us." The causes which have led
to the decadence of our society are not difficult to
find; the love of ease; the pride of wealth;

[illegible] the love of the world have overcome [illegible]
[illegible] of our life, [illegible] and
[illegible] may be [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] fully
[illegible]. [illegible] by the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] false [illegible]. [illegible] are commanded to "love
not the world neither the things that are in the
world. If any man love the world, the love of
the Father is not in him." "The world passeth
away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth
the will of God abideth forever."

We believe that it is only by individual faith and
personal work that souls can be saved, that any
will ever be able to endure as their own Lord
and Savior [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] will make
us true disciples of our Lord. We [illegible] to entreat
[illegible] dear friends, in the spirit of tenderness
which [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] manner the dear
and tender [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] and with
[illegible] is to be [illegible] in that [illegible] which
becomes the children of our common Father.
Opinions are not [illegible] by force, but there are
[illegible] above [illegible] in the hearts and minds
of the children of God [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] the stunned scruples with which [illegible]
the tender minds and [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] hearted.
Let us avoid these, even as we would [illegible]
the safe shelter of our father's home, [illegible]
sang the [illegible] [illegible], "Beloved,
let us love one another; for love is of God;
[illegible] that loveth not, knoweth not God, for God
is love."

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible], as the [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] with expectation of participation of [illegible] spiritual worship. Hence it is clear that we have retained upon us a spiritual state to a sufficient degree to enable us to offer such worship, and how can this be performed except there be stillness about us, quiet as to the outward, and stillness within and when this is the case, then indeed men may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness, and may also know of a holy spiritual communion which makes us partakers of its purity & fullness.

More than half a century ago the present condition of our Society was foreseen in prophetic vision by an eminent member of this meeting and in warning was it addressed to the threatened departure from our principles and introduction of those things which would divide and scatter.

We had also seen in the vision of night by other eminent servants of the Lord, and now had the prophetic utterance of that day have been fulfilled. We may remember no longer the storm of condemnation and reproaches which we then had to suffer from those who were leading the flock away from the safety of the Lord's fold to be devoured by the wild beasts of the wilderness. We had planned to be at home in meeting mostly in the quiet remembering the words of the Prophet "Come my people enter thou into thy chamber and shut thy doors about thee; hide thyself as it were for a little moment until the indignation be overpast."

But we have had to travel alone, for a whole generation no bodily recognition or helping hand was held out to us, and thus, as surely discerned by us, we could only cling to faith in the Lord's promises, remembering the words of the prophet "Doubtless thou art our father, though Abraham be ignorant of us and Israel acknowledge

us not, thou O Lord art our Father our Redeemer thy name is from everlasting."

That ever there may yet be in store for us as a People, still such heart may appeal to the Lord in a truly filial confidence, in the Eternal Goodness and though "Our holy and beautiful house where our fathers praised Thee is burned up with fire and all our pleasant things are laid waste," yet we may all remember there is that which will "bind up the broken hearted and comfort all that mourn."

If it be the Lord's will that there shall be a dissolution of our society, we pray that the day may be hastened wherein "violence shall be no more heard in the land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders, but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation and thy gates Praise".

With a salutation of love, we remain Your friends.

From New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly R.I. on the 5th 12th & 13th of 6th mo. 1893

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends
Dear Friends.

In that love which is known and felt by every one disciple of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ do we feel at this time to address you

[illegible] Epistle of 6th mo. 1st bringing to our taken of love and tender sympathy in our weakness and tribulation was comforting and encouraging; and when it was read in our meeting, by direction of the three from the other Yearly Meetings to which we correspond, we were made very sensibly to realize that we have no

might or strength of our own, but that all our blessings come from Him who is mighty to save, even to the uttermost, all those who put their trust in Him. The time of the sending of the Epistles was indeed a favored occasion, long to be remembered by us. It was such a time as one covering over the questions that the messages of the Epistles brought to us by these Epistles, seemed to fall upon the assembly like sweet incense from Heaven. Earnest desires were expressed that this method of correspondence might not only be kept up, but that it might also be extended, and thus be one of the means of bringing all of the same household of faith into outward fellowship.

In the early history of the Christian Church when Paul and Barnabas were on their mission, preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, there arose a dissension about circumcision. "And the apostles and elders came together to consider the matter," and an Epistle was written and sent to "Antioch and when they had gathered the multitude together they delivered the Epistle, which when they had read they rejoiced for the consolation." And although many, many centuries have elapsed since the first Epistle which was written under the gospel dispensation of which we have any record, nevertheless when we listen to Epistles written in the life in our assemblies, even we are made to rejoice for the consolation." We are again made to feel that manifold are the blessings which are ours, inasmuch as it has pleased the Great Head of the Church to send his unworthy servants to from other part. "meeting unworthy as, and their presence and labors of love have made

we sensibly to realize that "the Lord's hand is not shortened that He cannot save, neither His ear heavy that it cannot hear" the feeblest petitions of His dear Children.

The words of the Prophet of old, have at this time been strongly brought to our remembrance:- "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open the windows of Heaven and pour out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

While we have been enabled to sit down for a while, as it were, in Heavenly places in Christ Jesus, yet we are not unmindful we trust of our many Sweet Communings and Assemblies.

When the answers to the queries were read setting these forth, a loving concern was felt for our religious welfare, while testimonies were given by the ministering friends who were with us, and by other concerned friends encouraging all opens to greater faithfulness, that the ancient testimonies may be maintained by us. Especially was this the case in regard to members attending places of worship where a teaching ministry was shunned, when they are isolated from Friends' meetings, but such as these were strongly to gather into the quiet in their own homes and wait upon the Lord for the outpouring of His Holy Spirit upon them. Parents and heads of families were earnestly entreated to be more zealously engaged in bringing up their families in plainness of speech behavior and apparel.

Dear Friends, farewell and may you and we and those of the same household of faith in every where be found in communion with Him who is the root and offspring of David that it may please our

heavenly Father to draw us in the drawings
cords of his love into one united body
the tried ones in the different parts of the
Lords heritage who feel that they have no
place of refuge to which they can flee
may flock to no like doves to their windows

Remaining your friends in the love of the
gospel

From New England Yearly Meeting of
Friends held at Westerly by adjournments from
the 12th. of the 6th. mo. to the 13th. of the same
inclusive 1893.

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends

There are times and
seasons with individuals, and also with
bodies of Friends, when the hands hang down
and the knees, as it were, smite together with
weakness; and whatever the cause may be
it is trying and painful to endure.

This is felt by some of us to be our con-
dition at this time. as we once more as-
semble to endeavor to encourage each other to
stand for the law and the testimony.

We are weighed, established that a
more formal transaction of routine busi-
ness may promote the cause of Truth
and righteousness in the earth or cause the
Divine blessing to rest upon us.

Oh! the importance of individual
faithfulness. Truly this and this only will
qualify us a willing people to suffer with the
suffering seed and undergo the necessary
baptisms ere she shall put on her beau-
tiful garments of righteousness, and come
forth out of her wilderness state, leaning
upon her beloved — Zion leaning upon her
beloved — fair as the sun, fair as the moon

[illegible] with banners terrible as an army with banners, terrible in the disobedient rebellious and backsliding children; but joyful in the Saviour suffering and who have prevailed for the world. Where the little babes of Bethlehem, warm friends indeed, and strong witnesses of the cross of Christ the language is now lifted up to them is no weapon formed against them shall prosper, and every tongue that shall rise up against them in judgment thou shalt condemn.

We know not so much that our number is small as that we are not a greater depth in the root of Divine life. and we crave for all of us that there may be more of this experience, and for you, dear friends, that the fathers and mothers in the Truth, among you may yet see the fruit of their labors, in the faithfulness and steadfastness of many dear ones. who shall prefer Jerusalem above their chief joy, and go forth under the banner of the Prince of Peace to fight the battles of the Lord.

How careful do we need to be that we inconsistency of ours shall cause the young ones unnecessarily to stumble and fall. Dear to the dear children - the young men and young women, we feel constrained to beseech you to beware of allowing a mere worldling or a worldly professor to deter you from obedience to the smallest indications of duty, by ridicule, or by making light of your scruples. The time will surely come when every act of faithfulness will afford you joy unspeakable and full of glory. If the testimonies of Truth are to be maintained, and sound doctrine upheld, those who in the younger walks of life must, under the preparing hand of God, take the places of those who now bear the burdens and fill the responsible positions in the Church.

For the encouragement of such we would recommend them to read the early history of the

dear [illegible], especially the sisters of [illegible],
Upper Fern, Fishertown, Johnsburg
and others, who in their youth and work reaches
this sea-shore in search of Christ, and suffered
persecution, and some of them imprisonment
because of their faithfulness; and of [illegible] sure
support, was their choice, having received the
end of their faith even the salvation of their
souls.

We have been favored in having the
precious company of dear friends from other
parts of the Yearly Meeting, and their Gospel minis-
-trations is we believe will not be lost to us.

While the Epistles were read, especially the
one from your Meeting, a solemn and
precious covering spread over us, and our
hearts were tendered and filled with gratitude
to the giver of every good and perfect gift.

And O, the sadness we felt when the state of Society
was brought to light, by the sending of the
queries and answers read - the deep sense of
our shortcomings and unworthiness seemed
almost appalling! Much pertinent counsel,
gentle reproof and encouragement was
handed forth, we believe under right anthority
even the constraining love of the Gospel.

In Epistolary correspondence between co-or-
-dinate bodies of friends we feel with you, that
only that which proceeds from the life - even the
precious life which is from the spirit of Jesus
can reach the life in others; and though great
in our weakness, we are sensible that all
our fresh springs are from the Fountain -
Christ Jesus the Head of the Church.

In an especial manner your
weighty & lengthy letter was brought fresh
covering to our hearts, and we are made
thankful that you have in his mercy and
goodness been brought upon into a lively sense

our condition and enable you to speak
as it ought to speak. Oh! the depth of the riches both
of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How
unsearchable is his wisdom and his ways are
past finding out!

You speak of your fewness of numbers,
yet encouraged with our handful, our Membership is quite large - perhaps right to set that
forward - yet we live in hope to receive such en-
couragement from your Epistle as to put our
whole trust in the Lord Jehovah, like Gideon
when going to battle, and encouraged to
press on to victory, knowing that he was not by
might nor by power but by the Spirit of
the Lord, wherein we are to overcome the enemies
of our souls. Seeing the battle is not ours
but the Lord's. We have remembered
dear friends that when Balak called Balaam
to curse Israel the Lord stopped him not by
by Divine command was made to say "How
goodly are thy tents Oh! Jacob and thy tabernacles
Oh, Israel, as the valleys are they spread forth,
as gardens by the river side, as trees of lignalous
which the Lord hath planted and as cedar trees
beside the waters!" And many more words of
blessing did he pronounce for his Chosen
people. - And that more to encourage us
we may remember that the people of Israel had
oft times and again slighted the Commandments
of the Lord and sold themselves into their
disobedience; (as at this) repented and turned
unto him with their whole heart, the enemy
turned to the victorious one, all their enemies
could not put a stop to their growth, sweet
praises unto their God.

In the love and fellowship of the gospel
we take you and affectionate farewell, and
remain your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the
Meeting

From New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly R.I. by adjournments from the 12th. of 6th month to the 13th. of the same inclusive, 1893 To the Quarterly & Yearly Meetings of Friends

Dear Friends

In this our Annual assembly, we have again been brought into near & tender fellowship with the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond by the reading of the brotherly epistles from them; Yearly Meeting one of this number.

We have been comforted by the presence of several dear friends from other Yearly Meetings - among them A. Shotwell's visit from London, His gospel labors and companionship have been very acceptable to us in our present scattered and weak condition. We have been made fervently sensible of the promise:- "If two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them", and that He is willing and able to give good things to those who seek Him in sincerity and truth. We desire for you as well as for ourselves a continuance of the mercies our Heavenly Father has seemed in His wisdom to bestow upon us, and that we may be made sensible that goodness and mercy may follow us all the days of our life. It is pleasing to know that you are endeavoring to shield your Children from the contamination of the prevailing tendency that is found to exist in our Public Schools, both by precept and text books, and the cause of religious education, and it is our desire that a blessing may attend your efforts in the sacrifices which may be called for at your hands on this account. May wisdom direct your steps that your Children shall grow up as bright and shining lights in the midst of a wicked and corrupt

words and walk in the love of Christ as it becomes
all to do. The remainder of the year is at this
time to be spent in earnest prayer for a completion
of the work. Brethren and sisters it is for our
individual good to do one good thing of ourselves, and
of the two thousand of which it is composed in
prayer, in the strengthening of the weak knees and
the hands that hang down, Dominical seasons
with grace flowed fresh, for the confirming of
the weak and the restoration of the way, and which
we revere with, must has not been in vain.

Our meetings have been more harmonious
than last year and with this knowledge it may
not be proper to refrain from feeling that the strength
of the Church is in numbers, and to lose the
blessing that attends those who do the will of their
Heavenly Father.

In conclusion, dear friends, we desire that
you with us may be kept by the mighty one
of Israel on the above five foundation, that
the storms of adversity, on the one hand and
the streams of worldliness on the other may
alike fail to cast us down, and that the enemy
of all good may have no place in our
hearts.

Signed by direction and on behalf of
the meeting.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westerly R. I. Commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First day the 10th. of Sixth month 1894 and with Meetings for discipline on the 11th of same

Accounts have been received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings, by which it appears that the following named Friends have been appointed to represent them in this Meeting, Dr. Thomas Perry, John H. Foster, Charles Perry, Gideon, Gardner Foster, George C. Foster and Geo. Foster from R. Island, and Jesse Tucker, Isaac P. Willcox and James A. Tucker from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, which on examination being called they were all present and answered thereto.

(Receiving Minutes and Epistles in due time)

Epistles have been received and read at this time from Canada, Iowa, Kansas, Ohio, and Western Yearly Meeting, greatly to our satisfaction and encouragement. And we appoint our friends Gideon V. Foster, F. Pinckney Foster, Geo. Foster, Jesse Tucker, Chas. S. Cadbury and James A. Tucker to prepare as way opens for it, Essays of Epistles thereto and produce at a future sitting of this Meeting.

Our dear friend Andrew Hinshaw attended this Meeting with a minute from a Committee of Cottonwood Monthly Meeting, appointed to furnish company for his wife Sarah Ann Hinshaw, during her religious services in New England, informing that he is a member and Elder of Cottonwood Monthly Meeting, Kansas. His company and solid deportment, have

been comforting to us.

We have to acknowledge
Company of our dear friends William F. Brown
and Thomas B. Hoyne, members of Philadel-
-phia Yearly Meeting of Friends

Our beloved friend Elisa Varney attended this
Meeting with a minute from West Lake Monthly Mt.
of Friends, held 18th inst. 1894. Endorsed by West
Lake Four months Meeting. both held at Shrewsbury
Canada certifying that she is a minister, in
unity with them and liberating her to visit in
the love of the gospel, Phila Yearly Meeting and
some meetings within its limits; also to attend
New England Yearly Meeting, and appoint
some meetings within its limits as truth
may open the way. Her company and
gospel labors have been refreshing and strength-
-ening to us, and the Clerk is directed to sign such
minute on her behalf as the Women's Meeting
shall prepare.

Our beloved friend
Sarah Ann Hinshaw attended this Meeting with
a certificate from Cottonwood Monthly Meeting
of Friends, held 5th inst. 12th. 1894, endorsed by
Cottonwood Quarterly Meeting, informing
that she is a minister in unity with them.
And liberating her to attend New England
Yearly Meeting, and some of the Meetings
within its limits, her company and
gospel services have been comforting to us,
and the Clerk is directed to sign such
certificate on her behalf as the Women
Friends may prepare

Elwood S. Wilbur, and Geo. B. Durfee are
appointed to prepare a Summary of the
answers to the Queries and present at our
Sitting this afternoon.

We appoint our friends George B. Foster and Calvin S. Wilbur to examine and settle the Treasurer's account and report a friend for Treasurer, and the representatives to report at a future sitting of this meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a friend for Clerk, and another for assistant Clerk, and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Second day afternoon, about the time adjourned to. Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives having been called they were all present except one for whose absence a satisfactory reason was assigned.

George Foster on behalf of the representatives reported that they been together and were united in proposing John H. Foster for Clerk and Silas B. Gidley for assistant Clerk, and their names having been separately considered were united, and they are appointed to that service for the ensuing year.

The queries have been read at this time with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Swansea Quarterly Meetings, and a summary view of having been prepared by the Friends selected for that service it was also read and directed to be recorded.

Information is brought to view by the answers to the queries, concerning friends

[illegible]

Counsil was given, we burst under a sight & exercise and travail of soul for the encouragement of all Friends to attend our meetings for discipline, and two held in the middle of the week, as well as those on first day. We had a time wherein we take consolation & were felt release renewed, & strengthened from obligation to present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, as our reasonable service: while a blessing is annexed to faithful attendance of our meetings. King David said he would not offer a sacrifice to the Lord which cost him nothing. The dear young Friends were encouraged to permit the Heavenly Teacher to guide them, and incline their hearts often to wait upon the Lord. They were encouraged to leave their outward callings, and meet with their friends to worship God in spirit and in truth, and a blessing would attend; and in order to encourage our dear young people let all our meetings be held in the power of God. The impressions made upon the minds of children & young are often lasting, and the good influence which may thus result to their conduct through life cannot be over estimated.

The minutes of the meeting for sufferings were read before the meeting at this time, and united approved. And it is concluded to reappoint the same friends with the addition of our friend Jacob Dexter, to attend the meeting for sufferings the ensuing year, to meet the time of the women's meeting therein.

Adjourned to the 3d hour, third day afternoon, the 12th.

Third day afternoon the 12th. Friends met pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the representatives, being called

they were present & help'd on.

The Committee appointed to examine into & settle the Treasurers account, and for other purposes have produced the following

What follows was accidently omitted on page 75.

The subject of the Guarded Education of our Children was feelingly alluded to, and much sympathy was expressed with Friends on account of the obstacles presented, owing to the small number of our members. The evil influences resulting from sending our Children to the Public Schools as now conducted was spoken of, and Friends were encouraged when possible, to employ concerned members to teach, in family, or private schools.

The importance of collecting our families, and reading portions of the Holy Scriptures to them, and silently waiting upon the Lord for a manifestation of his will, was also alluded to; And all Friends, young, middle aged & old, were exhorted to be faithful in all their duties, whether great or small, and to "Bring all the tithes into the Lord's Store house, and prove him therewith, and see if he would not pour out a blessing, until there is not room enough to contain it. —

6th. The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers account and propose the name of a friend for Treasurer have attended to that service. They find the account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed. The balance on hand is fourteen hundred Eighty Seven and 40/100 (1.487(40) —

They recommend the appointment of Thos. Perry to serve the Meeting as Treas. for the year insuing.

On behalf of the Comm'tte
Geo. C. Foster

Which is satisfactory to the meeting and Thos. Perry is reappointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the insuing year.

The Committee appointed in 1890 and continued from year to year to have the care of the distribution of Friends books and Tracts have produced the following report, which is satisfactory to the Meeting, and they are continued and encouraged to persevere in the work of their appointment, and authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the expense incurred thereby.

To the Yearly Meeting now Sitting.
The Book and Tract Committe present the following report.

We have received from the Tract Association of Phila. Some forty volumes of the Standard writings of Friends and several thousand Tracts the past year, at an expense of $9.13/100 and the same has been paid for out of the Yearly Mtgs. fund. A large share of the said books and tracts have been placed in Public Libraries or otherwise distributed and expressions of satisfaction have been received for these and in some instances more have been requested. Especially Trustees of Public Libraries have been thankful for them.

On behalf of the Committee
Geo. C. Foster

A Friend from the Meeting informs us that there is one writer with South Kingstown Monthly Meeting in approving the public appearances in the Ministry

The subject of printing the minutes of this Yearly Meeting, also the Epistles from other Yearly Meetings to this meeting coming before us at this time, it is concluded that it might tend to the good of our Society, and especially of the members of this Meeting who are not present.

The Meeting for Sufferings is authorized to print such number of copies as in their judgment shall seem best and they are authorized to draw on the Treasurer of this Yearly Meeting for the expense of the same.

Adjourned to the 9th. hour fourth day morning the 13th.

Fourth day morning the 13th. near the time adjourned to. Friends again assembled.

Essays of Epistles were produced and read at this time by the Committee appointed to that service on second day morning, which are satisfactory to the Meeting, and the clerk is directed to transcribe and forward to those Meetings respectively:- Viz Ohio, Canada, Iowa, Kansas and Western Yearly Meetings

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the minutes of this Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

We have now completed the business which has come before us, and under a sense of the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly Father, in granting his overshadowing love, we conclude, proposing to meet at this place next year if consistent

with the Divine will.

John W Foster clerk

Summary Answers to Queries

Ans 1st All our meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held and others in unity, generally to general satisfaction. Indeed Meetings and those for discipline are much neglected by a few. The hour is pretty well observed. a few instances of exception in time of other meetings occurring during the year.

Ans 2d Love and unity are pretty well maintained and attention given to answer. No differences appear.

Ans. 3 Friends take some care to bring up their children in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel - to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and company, yet more care in these respects is needed. Some Friends are even plays, have the scenes, and methinks the Holy Scriptures are frequently neglected in their families.

Ans 4th. Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine, & in case of exception, and to discourage preparations of public places, and endeavor to keep in moderation and temperance on all occasions.

5th. Friends present some amongst us in circumstances needing assistance, & care should be exercised that we avoid the appearance of providing for attending them, & that aid from among Friends.

Ans. 6. Kindred decisions, and Harrison Circuit all proceedings in respect to same, are conformable to our discipline

Ans. 7. Friends appear to be lawful restrictions the several matters referred to in this Query; except that upon certain occasions attending Meetings, when a publick Minister is ministering

Ans. 8. Friends appear to be careful to observe their affairs and settle their accounts, to be punctual to their promises & just in the payments of debts, and also to live within the bounds of their circumstances,

Ans. 9. There has been some neglect in recording births and deaths, owing to delay in reporting same information to the Clerk. Yet a committee has been appointed to collect the needed data. No removals without certificates.

Ans. 10. Friends endeavor to deal with offenders according to the discipline, though some remissness is apparent in cases of drinking and Gaming. No judgments have been placed under our last observation

Copy

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends

By the favor of our Heavenly Father, we have once more been favored to assemble together to transact the business of our Yearly Meeting.

We have given your Epistle of Love, and with those from other Yearly Meetings received with very comfortable and precious feelings to us, coming as they do from those of like faith in the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and the doctrines of the early Friends.

Our Meetings throughout we feel have been held under the Shadow of the Lord's life giving presence and in the Authority of Truth.

We have the company at this time of several dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings whose labors of love among us we have found comforting and edifying, and we trust they will become a reward to them for the labors they have entered into for the Truth's sake, and that we may derive advantage therefrom; for which favors we feel we are truly grateful.

In the exercise of the Discipline and endeavoring to keep out of sight such as walk disorderly, the Spirit which covered the Meeting, a number of Right thinking Concerned Friends were led to offer a willing sacrifice of their Gold and Silver, in the attendance of our Meetings, and to keep ourselves and our Children as much as may be from the fashions and entanglements of this world.

We feel that the Bible schools and Christian work are a fruitful source of weakness to the Association and tending to turn the minds of our children from the Blessed Truth as it is in Jesus.

We desire that gratitude and praise may be rendered to our heavenly Father for the many blessings, both temporal

and unknown, we bow humbly creature
we come from the Lord for all good and that
to God we will in the day; may he answer
unto us! for His ways are not as our ways, nor
His thoughts as our thoughts.

May we in the gospel unbelief triumph Divine life
to bless and teach that His Gospel and Spirit
in our all our time be done, for thou knowest
our needs better than we. May humility,
repentance, purity and holiness be
our ornaments, and through the operation
of the inspiring Spirit that is able to save
our souls from death and lead us into that
glorious liberty of the children of God.

Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true,
whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things
are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatso-
-ever things are lovely, whatsoever things are
of good report; if there be any virtue, if there
be any praise think on these things.

Signed. Head of the brethren

From New England Yr. Mt. of Friends. held at Westerly R. I. by adjournments from the 10th of the 6th Mo, to the 13th of the same inclusive. 1894 —

To Kansas Yr. Mt. of Friends —

Dear Friends:

Being enabled by the ability which God hath given to meet together to transact the business of our Yearly Mt. though we feel poor and lowly — yet are we comforted in believing that "the Lord is good — a Stronghold in the day of trouble, and he knoweth them that trust in him".

Our Meeting not as large as last year, yet we have been made sensible to feel that the Lord in his condescending love and mercy has overshadowed us with the canopy of his love. During the past few years several members of the Yr. Mt. who had been valiant fathers and mothers in our Israel in the defence of our principles (during the many years of affliction and trial that have been permitted to come upon us as a people) have been removed from our midst from works to rewards. Our friends should these solemn dispensations of providence remind us, that here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.

When the Epistles from the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond are read in our midst, yours in a special manner has been to our tried spirits as refreshing showers to the drooping plants; and we believe the promise may be verified to you, "the liberal soul shall be made fat, and he that waters shall be watered also himself". We believe that these kindly greetings, sent to the different Yearly Meetings of the same faith & order tend to bring Friends into closer relationship and fellowship, and how great is the need that all real friends

is thus brought together that there may be more freedom among them to visit each other, and the single feather in the love of Christ constrains them, and be strengthened them to build up the waste places, and hold fast to the things which remain, that the suffering seed of Jacob may have beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord that he might be glorified".

"It is a great satisfaction and comfort to us, to have at this time the company of dear friends from your Yearly Meeting. They together with friends from other Yearly Mts, were enabled in that ability which the Lord alone can give, to speak to our condition to good purpose, as it were, bread which the Lord had blessed and given unto them, to deliver to the multitude. And O may we be so purified by Him, who is like a refiners fire and fullers soap; and our hearts so contrited, that the seed which these have sown may take deep root, and bring forth much to the Glory of God, and may we more clearly be made to see the importance of laying up our treasures in Heaven where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal".

When the answers to the queries were read, owning our many short comings, our sensibility were we made to feel our great dependence and we thus realize that only by the Grace of God shall we be kept from falling. Great was the travail of soul of the visiting friends that this little remnant of the society might be preserved, and we earnestly entreated to be diligent in the attendance of all our Meetings, both for worship and discipline, and the isolated ones were encouraged to sit down in silent waiting in their

homes, rather than to weaken their testimony by attending meetings where a paid Ministry is maintained. Encouragement was extended to give our children a guarded education in family Schools under the care of Concerned Friends, and may we be more careful of the tender blades, and O may all who are parents and heads of families (both you and we) be so filled with the love of God that we shall be able, so to impart instruction to our children that they shall become babes in Christ and be led by Him, until they grow to the full stature of man hood, and become pillars in the Church that shall go no more out.

Farewell in the Lord, and may you and we, ever be kept in the hollow of His hand.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting (Copy.)

From New England Yearly Mt. of Friends:

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends:

Dear Friends:

We are reminded by the roll of a round of another year that time is swiftly passing and bringing us nearer to the termination of our life on Earth, and the query presented to our minds, comes in the particular force and weight, shall we meet with our friends again to transact the weighty affairs of the Church Militant? And if not, shall we be found with our lamps trimmed and burning, prepared to enter the Church triumphant in Heaven? We have met this year under a sense of weakness and spiritual poverty, yet realize in our measure that all our fresh springs proceed from the unfathomable fountain of God

We read in the Holy Scriptures, "that as the Mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth and forever more". Of this we have abundant evidence even in the history of the Jews, under the Hebrew dispensation, by the marvellous deliverance which they experienced, and though they did again and again turn from the Commandments of the Lord and grieved his Holy Spirit & distrusting his power and love, yet when they repented of their sins and cried unto Him for help. He delivered them from their enemies, and gave them a goodly land even all that he had promised them. From that time until now there has been no want on the part of our Heavenly father to watch over his children, the workmanship of his hands.

O! then the encouragement to become his people, though it may and must, to some extent separate us from the world or much of the spirit, and many of the ideas that belong thereto.

For we must admit, notwithstanding the many cheering evidences of reformation that the world still lieth in wickedness.

The blessed Saviour said to his followers, "Ye are not of the world, even as I am not of the world, and again I pray not that thou should take them out of the world, but that thou should keep them from the evil." Hence we may well believe that as our desires and prayers, are to be kept from the evil we shall experience this preservation individually and collectively; then we become the Lords people & he will be round about us, and his everlasting arms underneath.

"The young lions do lack & suffer hunger but they that seek the Lord, shall not want any good thing." It was this faith in the All sufficiency of Divine Power that sustained our early friends in their suffering and trials, they found his promises

fulfilled, that the everlasting God the Creator of the ends of the earth faints not neither is weary. The Lord Jesus said to his disciples "in the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer I have overcome the world". It is not possible to enter the kingdom of Heaven without tribulation, and many of the dear faithful ones who have in different periods of the Christian Church been despised and set at naught by men, have in the end counted it all joy, because of the glorious prospect before them, everlasting rest with the redeemed children of their Heavenly Father.

Your acceptable epistle of 9th mo. last with those from other Yearly Meetings, have been a comfort and encouragement to us; by these we are renewedly persuaded that we are all of the same household of faith. The company of dear friends from other Yearly Meetings has indeed been a strength to us, as they have under Divine Authority been enabled to speak words of Condition and Counsels of encouragement - that we might not faint by the way. - and we are again persuaded that those who are led by the Spirit of Truth will speak the same language and mind the same thing". It has been renewedly made manifest to our Heavenly Father that after our long and sore trials, you have given us the right hand of fellowship and recognized us as of the same household of faith.

In conclusion may the God of Peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting Covenant make you perfect to do his will working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ to whom be glory for ever & ever. Signed in behalf and on behalf of the Meeting of Friends held at Fosterdale

From New England Yearly Meeting of Friends

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends
Dear Friends

We have read at this time your acceptable Epistle of last year, and others from the different Yearly Meetings in correspondence with us, and a fulness of thankfulness has arisen in our hearts with the belief that you and they are endeavoring in your several measures and allotments to plead for and maintain those principles and testimonies, the support of which, first called our forefathers together to be a society separate from the world, and having a tendency to lead to the spirituality of the Gospel dispensation.

They could not but see the error of following customs and fashions, which might be adopted by many to please the world, or to gain new converts to their ranks. But they in faith believed in the saying of the Apostle, Other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. These principles they have transmitted to us of this day as a sacred trust, not to be diminished or slightly esteemed.

The gate is still straight, and the way is still narrow that leadeth unto life and Christ is still the only door into the sheepfold. No other way has or will be found where by an entrance can be obtained but by following Him in meekness and humility.

Let us be concerned thus willingly to follow him in the way of his requirings, however contrary to our unregenerate natures we shall experience the truth of his declaration, "his yoke is easy, and his burden light."

Let us not dear friends be discouraged creatures; though to our human understanding

it may seem that the Church is ready to be overcome by the powers of darkness, but let us remember that in God is strength and salvation. When his chosen people were encompassed about by the mountains and the sea, then was their deliverance wrought and they sang his praise. His arm is not shortened that he cannot save neither his ear grown heavy that he cannot hear, but He will in his own good time arise for the deliverance of his trusting and contrite ones.

The steady and regular attendance of all our Meetings in the fellowship and discipline has ever been one of the testimonies which us as a Society have been called upon to bear before the world! May none become lukewarm or careless in this respect. If we are unwilling to thus devote a small part of our time to meet for the purpose of worshiping Him in whom we live and move, and have our being, in what confidence can we expect or ask for His blessing to rest upon us? Go thou into the cattle upon a thousand hills and He will settle them to whom of right it will.

Several visits from other Yearly Meetings have been in attendance with us at this time. To us, their company has been pleasant and encouraging, and we sincerely hope their services may be blessed to us.

With love to all, desiring your growth in those things that pertain to Salvation, remain your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

L. H. Foster Clerk

Copy

From our England Yearly Mt. of Friends.

To Iowa Yearly Mt. of Friends

Dear Friends:

Being once more assembled together in our Annual gathering, even as our forefathers have been accustomed to meet in this part of the land for two hundred and fifty years, our first and greatest desire is, that while we are outwardly assembled in unity with each other we may yet be inwardly and spiritually gathered into that white building which we will build us a pinto a true spiritual building whose builder and maker the Lord is". While we prayerfully desire this for ourselves, we also earnestly crave the same for you as well as for the brethren of our faith everywhere.

We are renewedly persuaded of the truth of that faith which our early Friends suffered for, which led them out of the dry formalism of outward ceremonies into true spiritual light.

This faith early pointed out the way of true worship; even a solemn waiting upon the Lord until He should be pleased to make himself livingly known to the true worshipers revealed to that spiritual part of mans nature which constitutes the true individual. We are told in the words of the Master himself, that "God is a spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth") and this being the case it is clear that no true worship can be offered except it be the devotion of the spirit of the creature to the spirit of the Creator. All that is termed worship, other than this is but a delusion, and all formalism even that of Moses and Elias representing the law and the typical baptism is in vain. If the human mind can be truly engaged in acceptable offerings to the Father of Spirits then worship as defined by the Master himself is enjoyed and nothing more,

possibly be added to it, to make it more acceptable; and they who are permitted to partake of spiritual communion with our Father who is in heaven, surely need no type to complete such communion.

We are led to these reflections, upon consideration of the backslidden condition of the professed Society of Friends many of whom seem to prefer the weak and beggarly elements wherein to they desire again to be in bondage.

This condition of our Society was clearly foreseen in the visions of light half a century ago by prophets of the Lord, and their warnings was disregarded — as were the warnings of the Old Testament prophets in the days of the outward glory of Israel. While we mourn that the gold has become dim, and the fine gold changed, yet it behooves us all individually to endeavor to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called, remembering that it is only by individual faithfulness that the Lords house can be built and his kingdom increased.

We have received your acceptable letter of 10th mo last, and have felt comforted and strengthened thereby. It is common to value the evidences of brotherly kindness and recognition more after we have been for many years without such encouragement and comfort. We are weak both outwardly and inwardly, and feel ourselves almost unworthy to attempt to hold a yearly meeting in the name of the Lord, yet evidences of his gracious presence were discerned at this time, and we believe we have known something of the fulfillment of the promise of the Master, That where two or three are gathered together in his name he would be there in the midst of them. We have also remembered how it was in the days of old, when a great victory

was wrought for Israel, when a very few men under the hand of Gideon became the Lords instruments of deliverance. We believe that the preservation of our Society depends largely upon a careful attendance of all our Meetings: for we know that there are spiritual blessings in the assemblies of the Lords people, and when rightly gathered in true unity the lingering feelings flowing as from vessel to vessel will unite all hearts as into one, and true love and unity will be felt, and the Meeting cemented together in the oneness of Christ.

Such opportunities cannot be neglected except to our hurt, and should be highly prized by all.

We have the company this year of several dear Friends from Phila. Kansas, and Canada whose coming we believe has been in the ordering of best wisdom, and the weight of whose spirits has been sensibly felt amongst us. With these we have felt a sweet unity of spirit, very precious to us all; and we discern in these visits a fresh evidence that we are in some measure still "owned by the Head of the Church."

Our Meeting has been much exercised for the preservation of our people and living desires have been felt and expressed that we may come more and more under the power of the Holy Spirit.

The reading of the Holy Scriptures in our families is believed to be often required not in a light manner, nor yet studied as a Science, but when carefully perused under a right qualification, they will be found to contain the deepest wisdom which the human mind is capable of receiving: and not only so, but in our own spirits there will be experienced an answering sentiment setting the seal of truth to the words of the inspired writers.

With earnest desires for your preservation, we remain your friends.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting:

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westerly, R.I. Commencing with public meetings for worship on 1st day the 16th of Sixth month 1895 and on the 17th with the time for Discipline.

Accounts have been received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly meetings in unity with us, and the following named friends were appointed to represent them in the Yearly Meeting. From Rhode Island Thomas Low, George Peckham, Edward Peace, George L. Foster, John Gordon Foster and John W. Foster. From Sandwich Jesse Baker, Job S. Gidley and John D. Wilbur. These names having been called they were all present and answered thereto.

Epistles have been received and read at this time from Ohio, Canada, and Iowa Yearly Meetings, to our comfort and encouragement. No Epistles have been received from Western or Kansas Yearly meetings, yet we have thought best to invite visitors to these meetings also, and we appoint our friends Jesse Baker, Jonathan Foster, John Gidley, Thomas E. Baker, John D. Wilbur and Joseph F. Foster, to prepare and read open in our Essex of Epistles to all of those meetings, and produce it at a future sitting.

We have also received an Epistle from our beloved friend Archibald Crosdale which has been read with much interest, bringing freshly to remembrance his earnest labors on our behalf when here and, desiring our hearts with the love of God and in his spirit Jesus our Lord, and the Clerk is directed to acknowledge its receipt with a suitable reply.

Our beloved friend Eliza H. Varney attended this meeting with a minute from Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

ded at Richmond in Canada, endorsed by Yearly Lake Quarterly Meeting held at the same place, liberating her to visit in the love of the Gospel as she may meet up within the different limits of meetings belonging to Phila. Yearly Meeting as way opens for it; also to attend some England Yearly Meeting and perform such service in that England as the Lord may open the way for. Also to attend to some service within the limits of Canada Yearly Meeting, and appoint some meetings as way opens for it in any of the above named places. Her certificate and Gospel labors have been encouraging and strengthening to us, and the Clerk is directed to sign such certificate on her behalf as the Women Friends may prepare.

We have the acceptable company of our dear friends John T. Smith and wife from Ohio Yearly Meeting, and also a few Friends from Phila. Yearly Meeting.

George Foster and John J. Wilbur are appointed to prepare a summary of the answers to the queries and present at our sitting this afternoon.

We appoint our friends Geo. L. Foster, Charles Perry and John J. Wilbur to examine our Treasurer's accounts and propose a Friend for Treasurer and they are requested to report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We are informed that two of the Ministers appointed this Meeting to have charge of a Friend was entrusted to the Yearly Meeting by the will of Obadiah Tripp are deceased and we appoint our friends Peleg Foster and John M. Foster to examine

the records of the Trustees and suggest the names of Friends to take the place of our friends Dec'd. P. Wilbur and James L. Wilbur deceased, as Trustees under said will

The representatives are requested to confer together at the close of this sitting to agree upon the name of a friend for Clerk and another for assistant and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Record the afternoon session the time adjourned to meet again assembled.

The names of the representatives having been called they were all present.

John Barker, Porter on behalf of the representatives of Portsmouth that they had met at the close of the morning sitting and were unanimous in proposing John P. Porter for Clerk, and Ida S. Gidley for assistant Clerk, and their names being separately considered were unanimously with, and they were appointed to that service for the year ensuing.

The Committee appointed at our morning sitting to examine the records of the Trustees and propose the names of Friends to fill the vacancies in the board under the will of Edward Wilbur have prepared the following report viz

"The first meeting of the Committee appointed this morning to examine the records of the Trustees of the Edward Wilbur Fund and propose names to fill the vacancies in the board of Trustees occasioned by the death of Isaac P. Wilbur

Frances A. Wilbur - vs - Peleg F. Stafford Jr. Trustee
Extracts from the records of the Fourth Meeting
of all appointments of Trustees have been
recorded, and that $2,000. of the funds is
now existing in the Fall River Savings Bank, of
Fall River, and $500. in the New Bedford
Institution for Savings, New Bedford, Mass.
And dividends have been collected and paid
to the Treasurer of the Fourth Meeting of Creditors
from 1894 to 1896 inclusive and his
receipts therefor have been copied into the book
of records. We propose the names
of Charles Bowen and Jesse R. Baker to
fill the vacancies now existing in the board.
Voted 6th mo. 17. 1895 Jesse R. Baker
Wm. W. Baxter
Which is satisfactory to the meeting, and
Charles Bowen and Jesse R. Baker are
appointed Trustees under the will of
Obediah Tripp to fill the vacancies caused
by the death of the former Trustees named in
the decree.

The state of Society was entered upon by the
reading of the Trustees and Treasurers
Final Summary thereof having been
prepared by the Board appointed at that
Session. It was also read and directed to
be recorded. Our condition as thus brought
to view, caused an exercise and travail
of soul on the part of some that an humiliation
and examination of ourselves to see and feel
the cause of such dissatisfaction, might be
thoroughly and searchingly the result of which
would be an humble view to see the things which
deny to our sense before they are hid from
our eyes. Efforts were warned against
the setting up entertainments, engagements
to promote or to the cause of said work

meeting and Trace for Directors to be
faithful in all things that pertain unto the
kingdom of God and this Society in the
necessary will be added.

Adjourned to the third hour 3d day afternoon
the 11th.

Third day afternoon the 11th. Met pursuant
to adjournment

Essays & Epistles were produced
at this time, by the committee appointed for that
service on 2d day morning and having been
read the Meeting unanimously concurred to direct
directed to transcribe and forward to the Meetings ad-
dressed Viz. Ohio, Canada Western, Kansas and
Iowa Yearly Meetings.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were
then before this Meeting at this time and read and
approved. A proposition was made to reappoint
the same Friends another year, with the exception
of our friends Isaac P. Gilbert deceased and
the addition of our friends Charles Terry and
Gideon T. Gilbert which being approved the
proposition is continued. Meeting for
Sufferings for the ensuing year, leaving the
minutes upon record of this Meeting herein.

The Committee appointed to examine
and settle the Treasurer's account and
propose a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing
year reported, the Committee
appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's
account and propose a Friend for Treasurer
have attended to that service, and find the
account correctly kept and the proper vouchers
filed. The balance on hand is Fourteen dollars
and 12/100 ($14.12) dollars. The

recommend the appointment of Thomas Evans Treasurer pro tem of the Committee

Westerly 6 mo. 18. 1895 Geo. B. Foster

which is satisfactory to the meeting and Thomas Evans is reappointed Treasurer of the Meeting for the ensuing year.

The Committee appointed in 1894 and continued from year to year to have the care of the distribution of Books & Tracts have reported the following - viz

To the Yearly Meeting Committee

We have received from the Tract Association of Friends in Philadelphia a quantity of Tracts and a number of books suitable for Standard Bearers of Friends since which have been placed in Public Libraries, and otherwise distributed, and gratefully accepted. Many Tracts have been distributed by mail, by hand, in certain instances, expressions of appreciation & thankfulness have been received by the Committee.

The Stock on hand of Tracts has been augmented by the addition of the Yearly Meeting.

Respectfully on behalf of the Committee

Westerly 6 mo. 1st. 1895 Geo. B. Foster Clerk

The introduction to the Meeting, and the recommendation that the same hands and the same method continue therein in the future appointments

It is recommended that, at the next year the Yearly Meeting Committee appointed from the Westerly Meeting be released from the care of attending to the distribution of papers at the Meeting for Sufferings

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the minutes of this meeting and sign them on its behalf.

The business claiming our attention having been brought to a close, and directed in a good degree of it to our and brethren's comfort we feel to bow with thankful heart before Him who is in our frailty has & made bare his own everlasting arms for our support and comfort, in whose care we are; and under a sense of this feeling we conclude by desiring to meet up this place next year if permitted by our Heavenly Father.

John W. Foster Clerk

Answers to the Queries

Ans. 1st All of our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held. those on 1st day pretty well attended, but mid-week Meetings & those for discipline small & neglected by some of our members. The love and the Observers, but many instances of sleeping & of other indecent behavior, Clear

Ans. 2 Love and unity pretty well maintained and detraction & wars against no difference have come to our knowledge

Ans. 3 We think some Friends do not pay that attention to plainness of speech and apparel in themselves & their families as becomes Christians profession. We think that most Friends have access to all wholesome reading and to restrain their families therefrom. We believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in their families

Ans. 4 Friends appear to be united to condemn the use of spirituous liquors to medicinal purposes, with a suitable exception, and to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort, also to keep in moderation in the occasions referred to in the query

Ans 5 In answer thereto, the poor are attended to, Friends children are sent to the public Schools, in instance of Slavery from among Friends

Ans 6 Parents and heads of families, with the young and immediate care desired may use some care that all proceedings in respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline

Ans. 7 Friends, mostly, maintain a testimony against a hireling ministry, yet a few Friends have at times attended meetings where such ministry is exercised, clear as to the other subjects referred to in this query

Ans 8 In this Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts as to keep punctual to their promises, just in the payments of their debts and endeavor to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans 9th Our records are attended to & the removals noted on certificates

Ans 10 Friends have a concern to advise against unnecessary or extravagant expenses, yet some respect, in mind attending to genteelness is allowed in the case of placing apprentices

Copy to Epistles from other Yearly Mts.

From New England Yr. Mt.

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends:

We have again been prompted to assemble in our Annual gathering, with hearts saddened by the death of several since last we met, who were as pillars in the Church, making our little company still smaller. Yet there is consolation in the belief that our loss is their gain; for they brought it to pass, building again the waste places, feeling that it was not by might nor power, but by my Spirit - Saith the Lord. For some reason unknown to us - the Epistle from our Yearly Meeting has not been received. Fervently have we desired unread to our comfort and edification, stirring up the pure mind in us for the heart that can by words, as the mouth doth meat - can perceive the works of the One Spirit in which they were written, enabling us more fully to realize that in this land, formerly, there are some who have chosen the better part, that shall not be taken from them having turned their backs to the world and the things thereof, that they may fulfill the law of the Lord, that is perfect converting to soul, living wise in their day and generation, bearing the Cross of our Redeemer as a sinful world shouting them by, that it is by works as well as by words that they are to show forth their love for Him, who is from everlasting to everlasting. At this time we have been made tenderly to realize that we are but poor weak worms of the dust - unable to think or do one good thing without His

help. What is man that thou art mindful of him or the son of man that thou visitest him, who in his best estate is altogether vanity. Truly we have a merciful intercessor who loved us before we loved Him, and gave his life to redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people — zealous of good works, — who shall endure the cross — despising the shame and have a single eye unto Him, who is able to carry his little children through all, and over all that He may permit to come upon them who hath in mercy called us with a high & holy calling away from the evil of this world that we may escape the judgments that are the portion of those who do not keep the Truth as it is revealed in the heart. It is indeed the grace of God that leadeth us to repentance following us as a tender shepherd doth his sheep, saying, this is the way — walk therein it when we turn to the right hand, or to the left, for his mercy endureth forever

The reading of the Queries in the

this answers brought before the view of our minds our many deficiencies — showing us the need there is for some of us, to dig deeper that our building may be founded on that rock of doing as well as hearing that Word which is nigh unto us even in our hearts and in our mouths so that when the floods do beat on our house, we may not be carried down in the fall thereof.

We have the acceptable company of several Frds. from other Yearly Meetings, whose company hath been very pleasant to us.

Desiring your preservation as well as our own in that rock on which the true Church is built we conclude bidding you an affectionate farewell.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting.

(Copy)

From New England Yearly Mt. of Friends

To Ohio Yearly Mt. of Friends.

Dear Friends.

Although there are but few of us left - a little handful just at this time who are gathered together in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting; yet have we often been made to feel that we are not quite forgotten or forsaken by Him who first brought the Society of whom we are members into existence, out from the fashions, customs and allurements of the world, and who made them a peculiar people, zealous of good works; inasmuch as He has in his condescending love and mercy vouchsafed unmistakably his presence, power and unmerited mercies are, and He has also caused his embassadors from distant Years Past, I was among the number to visit us, and their company and labors of love were acceptable and comforting; and your visitors have thus been drawn nearer to us, and the saying, "Iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."

The time of the reading your Epistle together with the others at hand, was felt to be a precious season, which we believe will not soon be forgotten; but that we may individually take home to our hearts the valuable counsel therein contained, and be encouraged thereby to double our diligence to make our calling and election sure; and be constrained, under many trials and afflictions through which we may be called to pass to "press the mark of the high calling" we are to mind and press forward toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

We are glad at the present day, that the seeming few who remain on the different parts of the

Indeed here is a standard lifted up, which is striving to maintain the integrity of our profession and testimonies, to go forward as it ought for that they may bring forth living stones of Zion in order to dwell with all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and that they may have a communion with God in their daily walk, and become living epistles, seen and read of all men. "For if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we shall have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin."

What a blessing would result to us as a Society and to the world at large could all under our name be thus united in spiritual Christian fellowship?

During the reading of the answers to the queries showing forth our many deficiencies and shortcomings - valuable counsel was splended which we trust may be received in honest hearts, that shall bring forth fruit to the glory of God. Beloved Friends in our weakness, in our nothingness, we feel but not of ourselves can we do anything for you or for ourselves but heartily unite in condemning what has come to our knowledge in the school of suffering. We do know of the falling away from the truth as it is in Jesus in this part of the land, among those in the younger walks of life, who have desired greater freedom from restraint, than the pure blessed truth admits of; and unwillingness on their part to take up their cross daily in regard to what are sometimes called little things, which has blighted their pathway. Oh! may the dear young people within your borders ever be livingly engaged in following a meek and lowly Jesus: for the promise to such as these will ever be verified, "They shall find rest for their souls

That they ever be willing to receive Counsel and be restrained from drifting away into wayward Courses, as the nursing Fathers and Mothers among you; and when these have passed away - then will be prepared in the power of God to redeem the fallen Members!

And may you and we ever be found looking to the unslumbering Shepherd of Israel for strength and consolation - even unto Him who will give beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness". V.

And now dear Friends farewell, and may every one of you be encouraged to press on in the Love of God's requiring, and may you be so filled with His grace that there will be a gathering about you like doves to the windows; bring all your tithes into the Storehouse, prove me now saith the Lord, and see if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, till ye shall not have room enough to receive it.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting.

(Copy) Samuel Foster Clerk

From Ireland Yearly Meeting of Friends.

To Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:

As we once more assemble for the transaction of the business annually coming before us, you are we trust living remembered, and brought very near in the fresh openings of Gospel life. Time nor distance cannot separate those who are one in faith and practice who love the Truth in its simplicity and purity. We have with in-

struction remembered the meekness the gentleness the outward poverty and unassuming character of the life of Jesus. Not only his lowly birth but his wonderful plainness and simplicity. What an example for us to follow! He well knew that the Son of God could have appeared with great demonstration of display and power, that he could have descended from Heaven accompanied by hosts of Angels, with Mighty lights far above the brightness of the Sun amid Shouts and songs of Glory. It would seem that He was looked for in some such wonderful manner.

Hence when he was born of woman in a stable and cradled in a Manger, the proud Jews, the leading people of that day rejected him saying, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth"?

No one can for a moment doubt, but that God could have caused His well beloved Son to have been born in a palace, amid luxury and splendor. But "his kingdom was not of this world". His mission was to turn the minds of Mankind from the perishing things of time to the enduring and everlasting Kingdom of Heaven.

The views of the people then as now were too much outward. They did not understand that the "Kingdom of God is within you". The dear Savior taught that except we receive the Kingdom of God as a little child, we could not enter therein.

From both history and biography it seems clear that from that time until this, the experience of the Lord's dedicated children, and the whole tenor of their lives has conformed to the precepts and example of Christ, "the Son and Sent of God". They sought not earthly glory or honor, but to be found in the path of duty - esteeming the reproach of Christ, greater riches than the treasures of Egypt.

How conspicuous was this trait of Christian character in our early Friends.

and how clearly it demonstrated that many of the professed Christians of that time were puffed up with pride, and despised the little low cross bearing ones.

George Fox and his Co-labourers were taught in the School of Christ. They were changed men and women before they were commissioned to preach to others the glad tidings of the Gospel. But this preaching of the Cross, though received with joy by those who were hungering and thirsting after righteousness, was highly offensive to such as depended upon forms and ceremonies, and contended for a continuance in sin. In the persecutions which our early Friends endured, there was no new experience. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ - who was persecuted and slain by wicked men told his disciples what they might expect, that "The disciple is not above his Master, nor the servant above his Lord", "If they have persecuted me, they will persecute you also". And not only prophets and apostles but the blessed Martyrs, suffered imprisonment, torture and death. Our early Friends therefore were led to expect persecution from the people, and as much from high professing, as non professing Christians.

They well knew that those who were born of the flesh ever persecuted those born of the Spirit; and although we are now permitted to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience yet if faithfulness to the clearly revealed will of God in our hearts is observed, we shall find at times we have to maintain a much higher standard than generally obtains in the world, and shall be looked upon by many as narrow minded and illiberal. When the late tendency which is being taken of late by Professors of Christianity, is seriously considered, do we not see the necessity

for the maintenance of our testimony, against not only the increasing forms, but the lightness, the lifelessness of many, as shown in advocating and practicing sports - and pastimes, which are totally at variance with Christianity?

We do not write in this way to throw any discouragements in your way, but to incite to greater watchfulness - even unto prayer, following the dear Savior in the way of his leadings. Neither do we feel strong to advise or help - but have been renewedly persuaded, that all those professing to be Friends have great need to shake themselves from the dust of the earth, and become prepared through faithfulness to stand in the breach of the wall, and fight valiantly, in Divine Armor for the inheritance of the Saints in light.

As this becomes the case dear friends, you with us - have nothing to fear, having become perfect in love. The "Everlasting Arms of the Eternal God are underneath - his exercised and prayerful children; and "no evil shall come nigh their dwellings". As the Mountains are round about Jerusalem so the Lord is round about his people, from henceforth and forever more"

Your excellent letter to us was very instructive and encouraging to our tried minds in our very weak and stripped condition. Indeed we sometimes marvel that we have been remembered and labored with so faithfully of latter times by our brothers and sisters of yours and other Yearly Mtgs. Thus our responsibility has been increased thereby; and we desire an interest in your prayers, when permitted a near access to the Throne of Grace, that we may not only be preserved from every weakening and contaminating thing - but that we may grow in grace and become established in the Everblessed Truth, as it is in Jesus.

And permit us to express a desire

living in our hearts that when the sands of life are run – we may with you meet around the throne of God, to sing the song of Moses and the Lamb, with the redeemed of all generations. –

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting.

(Copy)

From New England Yr. Mt. of Friends.
To Kansas Yr. Mt. of Friends,

Dear Friends:

From our Annual gathering where we are again assembled; we find in our hearts a salutation of love and good will towards your Meeting, which we would extend in the usual manner, desiring for you as well as ourselves that best and truest welfare which comes of a life of righteousness and submission to the will of the Creator of all things.

It is earnestly desired that we may all as well as you be found walking worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called seeking for strength to walk in that straight and narrow way – which leadeth to life eternal. In order to do this it is necessary to attend closely to the leadings of Him who Knocks at the door of every human heart that we may grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby we are sealed unto the day of redemption.

We are painfully aware of our fewness of numbers, and poverty of Spirit; and are led to doubt at times whether we can say anything to you in the right way, or be of any service to stir up others to remembrance; but we have hoped that there is yet something of Spiritual life left in this part of the Lords heritage. Amid the weaknesses of the creature, the Strength of the Master may be made manifest, even the might of Him

who is strength in weakness to all those who follow Him in the way of his leadings.

We are reheavedly persuaded dear friends of the truth of that primary principle of our Society which teaches us of the Spiritual nature of true worship: whereby, in the stillness of all flesh and in prostration of Soul before the Lord, we may place ourselves in a reception condition, in which we may discern His gentle monitions, that we may all know something of the washings of regeneration and renewings of the Holy Spirit. It is our earnest desire that none of us may feel easy to omit the assembling of ourselves together "as the manner of some is" but that we may diligently attend all our Meetings, that we may all be mutual partakers of that strength and helpfulness which comes of unity, where the Spirit of the Lord reigns. Times and seasons are not at human command, but we surely believe that if we are in our proper places in a waiting condition we may be given to know of the heavenly dews descend upon us, to the refreshing of the dry places.

The promise is that they who wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength, and surely this is abundantly verified from generation to generation.

Many of those who profess our name in the land have been recreant to the trust which they have inherited, and have been carried away into captivity by the spirit of the world so that "the ways of Zion do mourn because none come to the Solemn feasts, and all her gates are desolate; and we may also remember the language of the prophet, "Your iniquities have separated you and your God, and your sins, have hid his face from you that he will not hear". Yet the promises are abundant to those who will turn again to the Lord and his ways: for he shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon

thee; again, The Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory".

Human understanding and foresight may never fathom the purposes of Divine Providence nor understand the prevalence of evil in the world; yet it is comforting to recur to the promises contained in the Scriptures: and we may all have a sure place of refuge, where questions arise beyond human solution, even to the Strong place of the Lords power, where we may wait upon him in perfect faith, that "He doeth all things well".

To each of us individually the question comes, Are we living in that light, which shines out of darkness, and which shines in our hearts to give us of the light of the Knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ".

If we are living in this daily, and have opened the doors of the inward chamber of the heart, where the true individual dwells: So that the Son of righteousness may come in to sup with us, and reign there; then indeed shall we know of a joyful subjection to His will, when all else will appear of but little moment.

We have received no letter from you this year which we attribute to some accidental oversight on the part of those in charge with its transmition; but we have been encouraged by the reception of several from other co-ordinate branches of the Society.

And finally brethren we bid you farewell, earnestly desiring that that light (which shineth out of darkness, when the darkness comprehended it not) may shine in our hearts, and that we all may, by patient continuance in well doing - seek for glory and honor and immortality.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Mt.

John H. Foster

Clerk

Copied by W.H. Foster 8-6-95

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westbury L.I. commencing with public Meetings for worship on 1st day the 14th. of 6th. month 1896, and on second day morning the 15th. with those for discipline,

Accounts have been received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings by which it appears that the following named Friends have been appointed to represent them in this Meeting, viz from Rhode Island Thomas Perry, Amos A. Foster, George Foster John W. Foster, John Barclay Foster and George L. Foster, from Sandwich Jesse Tucker, James H. Tucker, John D. Wilbur and Job S. Gidley - whose names, having been called they were all present and answered thereto.

Our beloved friend Hanna H. Haight attended this Meeting with a certificate from Norwich Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Norwich Ontario 11th. of 5th. mo. 1896, endorsed by Norwich Quarterly Meeting held at the same place 3. mo. 14. 1896 liberating him to attend in Gospel love New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, he being a Minister in unity with them.

His ministry and Gospel labors have been acceptable and comforting to us, and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

Our beloved friend Benjamin P. Brown from North Carolina Yearly Meeting is very acceptably with us at this time, though not accredited by a minute from his Meeting. The Committee of the Society there is such that we are satisfied with the explanation which he has given. The unity of Spirit

felt with him, as well as his Gospel labors have opened in our minds a desire for his acceptation, and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute

The company of our dear friend Thomas Hogue from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting is very acceptable to this meeting

Epistles have been received and read to our comfort and encouragement, from Ohio, Kansas, Western and Iowa Yearly Meetings and Jesse Tucker, J. Barclay Foster, John S. Gidley, Sarah M. Tucker and John T. Foster are appointed a committee to prepare essays of Epistles as way opens therfor and produce at a future sitting of this meeting.

The Clerk having stated that a communication was on the table, from a body of Friends with which we are not in correspondence, it is concluded to request the committee on Epistles to examine the same, and report their judgement as to its disposal at our next sitting.

We appoint John T. Willson George Foster and Jno. Foster to prepare a summary of the answers to the queries and present at our next sitting this afternoon.

Jesse R. Tucker and Charles Parry are appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers account, and propose a friend for Treasurer and report at a future sitting (of this meeting).

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting, and agree upon the name of a friend to serve this meeting as Clerk

and another as assistant Clerk and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon

Adjourned to the 4th. hour this afternoon,

Second day afternoon the 15th. inst. pursuant to adjournment

The names of the representatives having been called they were all present.

John Burdan Foster on behalf of the representatives reported that most of them had conferred together and were united in proposing John W Foster for Clerk and Gobel S. Gidley for assistant Clerk. Their names having been separately considered, were united with and they are appointed to those stations respectively for the ensuing year.

An epistle from London Yearly Meeting was laid before the Meeting at this time, and while we do not feel it right to enter into a correspondence with that Meeting in its present position, the committee on Epistles are directed to prepare a suitable reply and present it at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The State of Society was taken up by the reading the Queries and answers thereto, and a summary thereof having been prepared by the committee appointed for that purpose at our morning sitting, it was also read and directed to be recorded.

During the consideration of our condition as presented by the answers to the queries divers were brought low, and made to

feel the need of greater faithfulness in upholding our precious principles and testimonies. That we encouraged to not only attend our meetings on 1st day when not employed in business, but to make a sacrifice if need be to attend our mid-week Meetings. The example of King David was quoted, that he would not make a sacrifice that cost him nothing. The dear young Friends were encouraged to faithfulness in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel; and the Parents were to set them by example as well as precept.

Parents were also cautioned to be guarded respecting the reading placed before their children, and to regularly read the Holy Scriptures in their families; and all Friends, especially the young were encouraged to read more of the deeply interesting and instructive biography and history of our Religious Society. They were also reminded of the responsibility resting upon them to prepare to fill the places of the fathers and mothers who must soon leave all to them; — and Parents were admonished to hold their Meetings in the power of God.

Adjourned to the third hour, 3d day 10 Hm, the 16th.

Third day the 16th. Near the time adjourned to Friends again assembled.

The roll of the representatives having been called they were all present.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved; and a proposition having been made to appoint the same Friends it was agreed and they are appointed to that service for the ensuing year, leaving the unity of the Women's Meeting herein.

Extracts of Epistles have been produced at this time by the Committee named for that service on 2d day morning, read and approved, and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward to the Meetings addressed viz Ohio, Canada, Western Iowa and Kansas Yearly Meetings.

The Committee on Epistles to whom was referred the communication from London Yearly Meeting, have presented two essays written by different members of the Committee, but not having time to prepare, digest and complete, it is considered, as the subject is an important one to leave it's consideration to the Meetings for Sufferings, and that, for forwarding shall be signed by the Clerks of the Meetings for Sufferings of London Yearly Meeting.

The Committee appointed in 1890 and continued from year to year to have the care of the printing and distribution of Friends books and Tracts, have produced the following report - viz

To the 42nd Yearly Meeting now Sitting.

A considerable number of Tracts and a quantity of books have been distributed which have been gladly received, some persons seeming exceedingly grateful for them. Also a large number of Juvenile Tracts have been given to Children who were much pleased to have them, and we believe read and appreciated them.

The expenses have been paid by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting

Signed on behalf of the Committee

Geo. L. Foster Clerk

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting and

the same funds are continued for the year ensuing, and encouraged it in their efforts to circulate such valuable publications, the women Friends covering.

The Committee appointed on 2d day (morning to examine and settle the accounts of the Treasurer, and propose the name of a Friend to act in that capacity for the year ensuing have produced the following, viz

The Committee appointed to examine the Treasurers account and to propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer have attended to that Service. They find the account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed. The balance on hand is Twelve hundred and ninety nine and 88/100 dollars ($1299 88); The also recommend the reappointment of Thomas Evans for Treasurer.

On behalf of the Committee

Jesse R Brooke

Which is accepted by this meeting, and Thomas Evans is appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the year ensuing.

It is concluded to print the records of this Yearly Meeting with the epistles received from other Yearly Meetings, including those from both Men's and Women's Meetings and the care of publication is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting, and sign them on its behalf

The business claiming our attention has now been concluded, it was conducted in much harmony and brotherly condescension, and under a sense of the mercy af-

-forded us, in permitting the overshadowing of Divine Love and power to be felt among us as now Concluded, purposing to meet at this place next year if Consistent with the Divine will.

Wm H. Foster
Clerk

Summary

Answers to the Queries

Ans. 1st All our religious Meetings for worship and discipline have been maintained. Those on 1st days have been pretty well attended — Mid week meetings and some for discipline are neglected by a number of Friends. The former not so well observed, as would be desirable

A few instances of sleeping, & other unbecoming behaviour, clear when assembled. Yet one account states that some care has been extended

Ans. 2nd Love and unity are pretty well maintained, and detraction mostly guarded against. No differences have come to our Knowledge.

Ans. 3rd " We think Friends use some care and are desirous to bring up those under their direction in plainness of speech behaviour and apparel, and to restrain them in a measure from pernicious reading and corrupt conversation. Some Friends are exemplary in themselves and we think the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in their families.

Ans 4th " We believe Friends are careful to avoid the use of Spirituous Liquors, except for Medicinal

purposes, and to avoid the unnecessary frequenting places of public resort, and to observe the other requisitions of this query.

Ans. 5th. There are none among us needing assistance, to children placed from among Friends.

Ans 6th. Parents and heads of families with the young and unmarried are desirous that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline.

Ans 7th. Friends maintain a testimony against a hireling ministry, and to other matters referred to in this query. Some instances of attending meetings where there is a paid ministry.

Ans 8th. Most Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, also punctual to their promises, and just in the payment of their debts, and endeavor to live within the bounds of their circumstances. Yet more care in these respects is needed.

Ans 9th. Friends are careful as to records. No removals without certificate

Ans 10th. Some want of care is apparent, relative to dealing with offenders; Yet we trust most Friends are desirous to conform to the discipline in these respects.

Answers to Epistles from other Yearly Meetings — 1896

From New England Yr. Mt. of Friends
To Western Yr. Mt. of Friends

Dear Friends:

In a measure of that love which is unchosafed to the children of men, and which is able to bring those who are exercised thereby, and who are faithful and obedient to its teachings into unity of spirit, and the bond of peace, we would salute you; And may our Heavenly Father in his adorable love and mercy draw you and us more and more closely together into fellowship, in the drawing cords of His love, and raise up those that may feel as the prophet did, when he declared, "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to them that are bound", and in all sincerity to say in the language of the Apostle, "But let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do".

The allusion in your Epistle concerning a more active maintenance of the living principles of truth, we trust touched a responsive cord in every heart when read in our Meeting, and we feel to add, yea, the time is not only rapidly approaching when all members of our Society should do this; but the time is already here, for these precious principles that have been handed down to us as a rich legacy by faithful servants of the Lord some of whom in the early history of this peculiar

service were so persecuted in maintaining them
that their garments were bathed in their own
blood. What can we feel in this our day and
generation that we are doing Gods service if
we do not put forth willing hands as ability
is given that they may not be trampled down
into the dust under our feet?

May God in his goodness
richly bless the dear youth among you of
whom you are able to say, "their orderly de-
portment and interest shown were cheering"

Three are with us at this time ap-
pointed messengers from other Yr. Mts. who
were enabled (in the ability which God alone
can give) to divide the word aright among st
us, and we trust that the seed thus sown
may bring forth fruit to His glory.

Although our Yearly Mt. was small
the various sittings thereof were felt to season
of Divine favor and we were enabled to transact
all the business coming before us in great
harmony.

Finally farewell in the Lord,
and may you and ourselves ever be found ready
and willing in the ability that is given to suffer
even to persecution if need be, in maintaining all the
principles of our profession before a gainsaying world.

Signed by direction and on behalf
of the Meeting.

J. V. Foster Clerk.

From New England to Kansas Yr. Mt.

Dear Friends:

Again
have we been favored to meet together under
a humbling sense of the many mercies that
have been bestowed upon us by the unslum-
bering Shepherd of Israel; feeling that

of ourselves we can do nothing rightly, and
desiring that He will direct our faltering
tongues, and move our feeble hands in His
work; that there may be nothing, or word
spoken, that is not in accordance with His
holy will. All the Epistles from the
Yearly Meetings with which we correspond
have been received and read in our hearing
likewise yours that was not received in time
last year, and were a source of satisfaction
and encouragement, causing us to more fully
realize that Friends of the same household of faith
though distantly separated as to the outward
do mind the same things, showing they are led
by the same spirit which is the "perfect law
of the Lord that converteth the soul!"

The reading of the queries
and answers thereto brought to view our weak-
nesses and shortcomings so that we felt to say
like one formerly "we have nothing to boast
of but infirmities!" Much good counsel
was handed forth during the exercises that
followed, which we trust was not bestowed
in vain, and may it accomplish that where-
unto it was sent.

We have with us several
Friends from other Yearly Meetings whose
Gospel labors have been acceptable
and encouraging causing us to feel that there
are a few scattered over the land that have not
bowed the Knee to Baal nor kissed his image
but desire to worship the God of our fathers
in humility of spirit and truth, claiming
that this and this alone can satisfy the hun-
gry soul, like as the manna did in the wilder-
ness.

Desires have been raised in our hearts that
Friends wherever situated may be enabled
to fully realize the need there is for diligent

and make their foundation said upon the rock that cannot be removed by the to[illegible] here's and to theres that are used by the enemy of all good to draw us from that faith which is necessary to overcome the world, and the things of the world.

May patience and humility be our covering in this journey toward that land where the wicked shall not trouble and the weary may find rest. May we be enabled by that spirit which has been mercifully extended to so walk before men that we may not bring reproach on His cause but rather instruments in His hand to build up the broken wall after we have been down through the gate of humiliation in the silence of all flesh and raised the walls without the help of man.

May we as a body one and all, hold fast to that faith for which our forefathers suffered, even unto death knowing that Christ is the same yesterday, to day, and forever and that the hand of man add's no beauty to the stones of an altar reared to Him who said, "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

With earnest desires for your preservation as well as ours, we bid you an affectionate farewell.

Signed by direction on behalf of the Mt.

Jno. M. Foster Clerk

From New England to Ohio —

Dear Friends:

The recurrence of the time of our annual gathering again finds a few assembled in this part of the land, claiming the name of Friends and

endeavoring in the Ancient manner to hold
Meetings in Solemn waiting upon the Lord
as our fathers have done for generations
before us.

With a salutation of love we
again address your Meeting, feeling drawn
towards you anew in that fellowship which
true Friends have always experienced one
toward another, brought together by a common
faith.

The departure from the primitive sim-
plicity of the Gospel on the part of many
under our name has made it in their eyes
almost a reproach to maintain silence before
the Lord for his spiritual blessing, yet we
may say as to these that, "after the manner
which they call heresy, so worship we the
God of our fathers, believing all things which are
written in the law and the prophets." We deem
the language of the great prophet is applicable
to the present needs of humanity even as it was
to the condition of Israel in the days of old,
"For this commandment which I command thee
this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is
it far off. It is not in heaven that thou should'st
say, who shall go up for us to heaven and bring it unto
us, that we may hear it and do it, neither is it beyond the sea
that thou should'st say, who shall go over the sea for us &
bring it unto us that we may hear it and do it." "But the
Word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth and in thy
heart, that thou mayest do it."

We are persuaded dear
friends that the Word which was made flesh &
dwelt among us, is even nearer to us of this day
than it was to Israel of old, for the promise has
been fulfilled "They shall not teach any man
his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying
Know the Lord, for all shall know me from the least
to the greatest." — And this is the light that has

come into the world the same voice shined in darkness, and still shines in dark places of the human heart; first as a reprover and until repentance and amendment of life are begotten, then as a rewarder, and comforter, as a guide to the footsteps of the faithful follower in every time of trial. That we may all know this Light, and direct our footsteps by it, is the prayer of our hearts fully realizing that this is the true Light, which lighteth every man which cometh into the world.

The worship of the living God in spirit and in truth, is a service which we can not accomplish at our own time and in our own way, but we may place ourselves in a waiting attitude, and when we have banished all hindering things we may hope to be taught of the Lord, and become spiritually enlightened that we may discern the gentle movings of his spirit as revealed to his true followers.

It is not to be expected that we shall have great things made known to us but when we are told as was a man of old to wash seven times in Jordan, in order that we may be clean, we must obey the commandment even tho' it may seem a small matter, otherwise we cannot be cleaned. "For obedience is better than sacrifice, and to hearken to the voice of the Lord, than the fat of rams"

The trials and temptations incident to life in this world are more than human nature can bear alone but there is that which will sustain us at all times; and as the heart is raised towards God at every time of trial, a swift answer of strength will come sufficient for our every need. If we keep our hearts in the right place, and lift them often towards the Divine fountain of strength, we shall be restrained from all evil thoughts, and all hasty words, and thus be preserved from the sin which will stain the soul

or from words which would wound our friends and bring self reproach upon us. In our own strength we may not always be able to do this, but help is laid upon One who is mighty to save; and we may remember that it is "not by might or power, but by my spirit saith the Lord of Hosts".

We believe dear Friends that there are those still remain in the earth and that the righteous still are many, and if the remnant of our people which remains would be faithful to the testimonies of Truth, that though "Our holy and beautiful house where our fathers praised thee is burned with fire and all our pleasant things laid waste" yet there would still be a returning to Jerusalem and a rebuilding of the waste places thereof. It is they that wait upon the Lord who shall renew their strength; and as they are enabled to draw near to Him by the operation of His divine life in the soul they shall know of a breaking of spiritual bread in pure communion with Him, and shall know of an holy altar prepared whereon they may "offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness."

We believe our little company was at this time known something of the fulfilment of the promise that when but two or three are gathered in the name of the Lord, He will be there in the midst of them. A precious covering of Divine love has seemed to overspread us at times and we are made to rejoice in the belief that we are still owned by the Head of the Church and we can testify that it has been good for us to have been together.

We have the company of a few Friends from beyond our borders whose advice and labors have brought them very close to us, so that we have been tendered together, and a true fellowship has been begotten which is difficult to express

in fitting words, but which is measured only by the love of Christ in the fellowship of the Gospel.

Finally, in return, it is the prayer of our hearts for ourselves and for you that we may all so live that when time with us shall be no more, we may know each other in that place where the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be and where His servants shall serve Him & see His face

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

John H. Frizer
Clerk

From New England to Iowa,
Dear Friends:

In fee to address you again in war of strife and should be glad if we could be favored to say aught that would tend to your encouragement in well doing, and strengthen the feelings of Christian unity and fellowship existing between us. Whilst we trust both you as well as ourselves are endeavoring through much weakness and many discouragements to uphold in our respective measures the truths of the principles on which as a society we most assuredly were and which are dear to us; yet it is sorrowfully evident that there are some under your name in various parts of the land — who not content with falling away from the support of the truths themselves, are endeavoring to weaken the hands of those who would uphold the banner of true Quakerism before the world — to lead us out from under the Crucifying influence of the spirit of Christ into greater worldly liberties and a mere formal recognition of the great truths of the Gospel dispensation. Let us not dear Friends be

deceived by their sophistries. No easier way to the Kingdom of Heaven has or can be devised than thro' Him who has declared himself to be the way the truth and the life. "No man can come unto the Father but by me" The gate is still straight and the way is not widened, Christ is still the door into the sheepfold, and all who attempt to climb up some other way are thieves and robbers." Although from our finite view there is much around to discourage — let us remember the cause is the Lords, who has his ways in the deep and whose designs we cannot comprehend — who can when he sees meet make a way where there appears to be none and whose power is without limit. Yet it is of the utmost importance to us that we do not stand in his way or mar the purpose of his work, but be willing to be made instruments in his hand however humble, and yield to his requirements though much in the way of the cross to our creaturely feelings may be that which he requires of us.

"Ye have not chosen me but I have chosen you and ordained you said our Savior to his disciples — that ye should bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain" clearly implying that our Heavenly Father will — lay upon his servants not what may be most agreeable, but that which is his will concerning them. Dear Friends let us strive to keep in a watchful and prayerful state of mind. The injunction of our Savior to his disciples was to "Watch and pray lest ye enter into temptation". There is great need for us all to be upon the watch lest the enemy of our souls happiness gain an entrance into our hearts and the good seed be choked and hindered in its growth from our neglect in that respect. We have received at this time your Epistle of 10th mo. last

and also our from each of the other Years Mts. in Correspondence with us; and the following are calculated to stir up & in them as the pure mind by way of remembrance and show that though far separated, our minds remain with feelings of love to our distant brethren. and desires are begotten in our hearts that none should grow weary in well doing, but should endeavor to let our lights so shine before the world, that others seeing our good works, may glorify our Father which is in Heaven.

Let us not suffer any of the precious testimonies borne by our Predecessors in the Truth through much suffering even unto death - fall to the ground but let each in our several allotments in the same single unto Him who giveth strength and support in the day of trial fight the good fight of faith and persevere unto the end.

We have been favored to transact the business coming before us in harmony and brotherly condescension, and He who has promised to be with the small assemblies gathered in his name, has we trust at times made his presence manifest amongst us.

With a salutation of love we remain your Friends.

Signed in direction and on behalf of the Meeting

From New England to Canada.

Dear Friends:

Through Divine favor we are again permitted to meet in our Annual gathering, and our dear friends have been brought near to our best feelings in the love of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Yet our weakness and smallness of numbers are such

that it is with much embarrassment and some difficulty that we can maintain a Yearly Meeting at all. Where you are permitted with near access to the throne of Grace, and approach the presence of our Living Savior, plead for us we entreat you, that we may never make shipwreck of the blessed faith, once delivered to the Saints.

Your sweet and kind Epistle is very precious to us, presenting as it does in clearness and Gospel love the oneness of all the families of the Church of Christ, and pointing to the necessity of purity and holiness of life.

It is ours to unite with you in expressions of thankfulness that our Compassionate Father hath permitted us Poor heirs to those precious Truths bequeathed to us by our forefathers; yet we are conscious that these can do nothing for us until we by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost through faith and submission to the Divine will are ourselves made partakers of the new birth, and live a life of purity and holiness. Persuaded we are that none can availingly preach the everlasting Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ until their lives have been brought into conformity to his will.

We have received acceptable Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond bringing freshly before us the concern and care of these dear friends for our welfare and growth in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth. How comforting to us are these letters of paternal greeting; we are carried back in retrospection to the time when no such Epistles were written to us; and no ministering friends from other Yearly Meetings visited us. Our lonely travail in the wilderness was of many years, yet the Lord forsook us not, unworthy as we

were. "His mercies are new every morning, and we read, that His mercy reaches above His judgments even to the heavens".

It is not works of righteousness that we have done, but of unbounded mercy through Christ Jesus our Lord that we can be saved. Yet this is no reason for unfaithfulness but rather should be an incentive to renewed dedications of all that we have and are unto Him who hath done so much for us. Let us think of the agony of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane when His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling to the ground. During the reading of the queries and answers we were greatly humbled under a deep sense of our unfaithfulness and the need we have to watch more continually, ever feeling that without Divine help given us day by day, through earnest secret prayer we are not safe for one moment.

The unwearied adversary of our souls is ever ready to attack us in our weakest point and if possible wound us, and then attempt to discourage by persuading us it is of no use to try longer, for God has cast us off. Oh the stratagem of the enemy of our souls are varied and artful, but he was a liar from the beginning, and if we fly to our Savior, He will with these temptations make a way for our escape, that we may be able to bear them.

In conclusion we commend you to God and the word of his Grace which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among those that are sanctified.

With a salutation of love we remain your friends and brethren

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

From New England to the Yearly Meeting of Friends of London, England.

Dear Friends:

Our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England assembled at Westerly R. I. has received a letter from you referring to the several bodies of Friends in America who are not in correspondence with your Meeting, because of separations which have occurred within the past sixty years.

We heartily agree with you in deploring the divisions which have taken place among professed Friends in this Country, and while we grieve for these things, we have felt more sorrow for the faithlessness on the part of many which we indeed such divisions unavoidable.

When early Friends separated themselves from the Church of England and from other professed Christian bodies, they found such divisions necessary, because of divergence in faith and practice, although all professed allegiance to the same Holy Spirit and so in 1827 in this land there seemed no other course to pursue in the face of great difference of principles, likewise in the more recent case it was impossible for us to remain with those who had ceased to be Friends according to the ancient standard, and were endeavoring to appropriate our honored name, and carry back the entire body of the Society to the rejected forms and practices which Geo. Fox and the early Friends testified against, and from which they separated.

The expressions in your letter referring to the groundwork of our common faith as a Society find a tender response in our hearts, and we desire to express our love and good will

for you as returns of the same house and
of faith and as Kinsmen in the land of our
ancestors. While we can never under-
value the great offering of Him who was made
a sacrifice for sin, who knew no sin as the
Savior of mankind whose outward life
perished on Calvary; yet we also know
the living Christ within, which is "the grace
of God that bringeth salvation" and which
hath appeared to all men; reproving all for
evil from time to time and powerfully draw-
ing every one towards a life of righteousness.

It is only as each individual
yields obedience to this inward or spiritual
light, as the governing principle of his life
that we can realize, that this is the light,
which "shineth in our hearts to give the light
of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face
of Jesus Christ."

We are but a handful remaining
of a once large Yearly Meeting, yet we are still
endeavoring to hold our meetings in the ancient
manner of Friends; waiting in the silence of
all flesh for the fresh anointings of the Holy
Spirit, or such successive ability.

For fifty years
past a vast movement of apostacy from our
ancient faith has swept away from the true
foundation many of those who have professed
our name in this land. This movement had
its inception in the unsound doctrines pro-
mulgated largely by members in high standing
in your country; but anointed eyes early dis-
cerned the movement, and foresaw the devastation
which must ensue, and warning cries were raised
from the watch towers on the walls, yet the warn-
ings were unheeded and the faithful watchmen
were punished as disturbers of the peace. The
predictions uttered so many years, have been most

striking fulfilled; thus confirming the scripture view of those who in the rise of it saw the end of the unsound teachings and perceived that the inevitable result must be the abandonment of Friends principles and the introduction of outward ordinances and a hired ministry.

This retrograde movement has proceeded rapidly in this country, until many of the Meetings which you have exclusively recognised here as Coordinate branches of the Society, have abandoned not only the substance, but even the semblance of Quakerism and have taken that position from which George Fox and his Contemporaries first took their departure. Meanwhile the suffering seed has remained under the foot of the oppressor and the Parent Tree in London has not only consented but is in full fellowship with those who trample upon the precious testimonies for which our fathers suffered.

It is fully evident that the revival of primitive Christianity in Geo. Fox and his Coadjutors was ordered and sanctioned by the Great Head of the Church Jesus Christ, our once Crucified but now glorified Savior: and the King of Kings cannot require us to abandon the very testimonies which he led them into, and which cost many of them their fortunes and their lives.

Our desire for you dear Friends is that you may live so near the fountain of Truth that you will be enabled to put aside even wrong and inconsistant things, that there may be a movement of true unity among all faithful Friends who love the Ancient testimonies: and our prayer is that we may all be found faithful under the Cross of Christ in the visitations of suffering by which he chastens his loved ones; and putting aside all hindering things, attend to the simple manifestations

of the life of Christ in our own hearts, as we are enabled to discern the movings of his Spirit.

It is trust dear Friends, that there is still a living seed, both in your land and ours, which we pray the great Husbandman may water with Heavenly dews, and nourish with the beams from the Sun of Righteousness that they may be a fruitful one in the Lord's vineyard unto his praise and glory.

With earnest desires for your preservation we remain your Friends.

Signed by direction and in behalf of the Meeting held at Westerly in the 6th Mo. 1876. —

John W Foster clerk

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westerly R.I. Commencing with Public Meetings for worship on first day the 13th of Sixth month 1897 and on Second day morning the 14th. with those for discipline

We have received accounts from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings by which we are informed that the following named friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting Viz. from Rhode Island Thomas Perry, George Foster, John F. Foster, J. Pearson Foster, Charles Perry, Amos O Foster and George B Foster. From Sandwich - Jesse Smiley, Geo. H. Gifford, and Job S. Gidley, whose names being called they were all present and answered thereto.

We have received and read at this time Epistles from Canada, Ohio, Kansas, Iowa, and Western Yearly Meetings and also a General Epistle from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting - all of which have been much acceptable and comforting to us; And are replete with much Gospel instruction and Divine love. We appoint our friends Jesse Smiley, John F. Foster, J. Barclay Foster, Job S. Gidley, Jonathan Peirce and James H. Smiley to prepare essays of replies to the Yearly Meetings with which we are in regular correspondence, and also to prepare a minute to suitably acknowledge the General Epistle from Philadelphia.

We appoint John F. Wilbur and Geo. G. Foster to prepare a Summary of the answers to the Queries and present at

our sitting this afternoon.

Jesse R. Decker, Charles Perry and Amos A. Foster are appointed to examine & settle the Treasurers account, propose a friend for Treasurer and report at a future sitting of this meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting, and agree upon a friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk and another for assistant and report at the opening of the meeting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the 4th. hour this afternoon.

Second day afternoon the 14th. 2nd mo. pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the representatives being called they were all present, and Charles Perry on their behalf reported that they had met as requested, and there united in proposing John W Foster for Clerk, and Job S. Gidley for assistant Clerk. Their names being separately considered, were united with and they are appointed to those services respectively for the ensuing year.

The State of society was brought to view by the reading of the queries and answers thereto, and a summary thereof having been prepared by the friends appointed for that purpose at our morning sitting it was also read and directed to be recorded. While considering our condition thus brought to the notice of the Meeting, Friends were made sorrowful and we were introduced into a feeling sense of our weakness and infirmities, as well as the want of watchfulness and faithfulness in the maintenance of our testimonies; and we were reminded

that our example as seen by others not of our profession, was carefully watched and our religion measured thereby. We were encouraged to attend our mid week meetings, and those for discipline, even though we seemed to sacrifice our business interests. In one sense it was more important to attend these than our meetings on the 1st day of the week, as this not only manifested our allegiance to our Heavenly Father, but proved to the world that the worship of Almighty God was felt by us to be of the first importance. We were exorted to be careful in dealing with offenders to do it in the Spirit of meekness and wisdom as well as timely; and instead of speaking to others of the faults of our brethren we should do so to them, not in a spirit of censure, but under the influence of Divine love and power.

The records of the meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved, and it is concluded to continue the Friends now under appointment to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, with the addition of the name of Geo. H. Hiffing; the Women's Meeting concurring.

Adjourned to the third hour, third day afternoon the 15th.

Third day afternoon the 15th near the time adjourned to Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called they were all present.

Our dear friends Enoch Baxter and Catherine his wife attended this Meeting with a minute from Spring River Mo. Monthly Meeting of Friends in Kansas Yearly Meeting, held 4th Mo. 21. 1897

stating that they were elders in unity with them, and liberating them to attend some meetings in Western and Ohio Yearly Meetings, and also to attend New England Yearly Meeting.
Their company and services have been comforting to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

The Committee appointed in 1890, and continued from year to year, to have the care of procuring and distributing Friend's books and Tracts, have produced the following report.
Viz To the Yearly Meeting now Sitting.
The Committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting to have the Care of circulating Friend's books and tracts report that they have given the matter some attention and distributed a considerable number of Friends books and tracts and juvenile literature, where way seemed to be open for such work, and have received expressions of satisfaction from a number of persons in relation thereto.
The committee having a sufficient quantity of both books & tracts on hand have not drawn on the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the past year
Geo. L. Foster Clerk of the Com.
Which is satisfactory to the Meeting, and the same Friends, with the exception of our dear friend Isaac P. Willson deceased, and the addition of the name of Geo. W. Gifford, are continued in that service another year.

The Committee appointed on Second day morning to examine and settle the Treasurers account and propose a friend for Treasurer have produced the following viz

Report

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers account and to propose the name of a friend

for Treasurer have attended to that service
They find the account correctly Kept and
the proper vouchers filed. The balance
on hand is thirteen hundred and eight four
dollars 32/100 dollars. They recommend the
reappointment of Thos. Perry to serve the Meeting
as Treasurer for the ensuing year. On behalf of the committe
Jesse R. Tucker

The friends named at our first Sitting to
prepare essays of replies to the Epistles
received from the Yearly Meetings with
which we correspond have produced
such, and the Clerk is directed to forward
to those meetings respectively - Viz Ohio,
Canada, Iowa, Western and Kansas Yearly
Meetings.

The same committee also prepared
a minute noting the reception of the General
Epistle from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting which
the clerk is directed to record, and forward
a copy of the same to the clerk of that Meeting

It is concluded to print the minutes of
this Meeting, with the Epistles received
from other Yearly Meetings, and the care of
the same is referred to the Meeting for
Sufferings.

The Clerk is directed to make
all necessary extracts from the minutes of
this Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

We have now finished the business which has
come before us, and while feeling deeply our
unworthiness and short comings, the sense of
Divine love and mercy extended to us has
been cause of thankfulness, and we trust will
help us to renewedly dedicate our lives to the
service of our gracious Lord and Saviour:
and in a degree of this love we conclude,

proposing to meet again at this place next year if consistent with the Divine will.

John W. Porter Clerk

Summary of the answers to the Queries

Ans. 1st. All our meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held and well attended on 1st days, but those in the middle of the week and for discipline there has been much remissness. The hour settle well observed by most Friends. A few instances of sleeping — no other unbecoming behavior noticed when assembled. An Report states some care has been extended on account of these deficiencies.

Ans 2nd Love and unity are pretty well maintained and detraction mostly guarded against. No differences apparent.

Ans. 3rd " Some Friends endeavor to educate their children and those under their care in plainness of speech deportment and apparel but not enough care in these respects, nor all sufficiently exemplary therein themselves. We believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in most Friends families.

Ans. 4th " With one exception Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine. Usually clear of frequenting places of public resort, and to keep in moderation and temperance on most occasions.

Ans. 5th " None among us appear to require assistance to children placed from among Friends.

Ans 6th It is thought Friends have a concern that all proceedings with respect to marriage should be conformable to our discipline, but more care both with parents and children would be desirable. One case of marrying out of Society reported.

Ans 7th As far as appears Friends bear a testimony against a hireling Ministry except that a few of our members sometimes attend Meetings where a paid ministry is exercised; Clear in regard to the remaining parts of this query

Ans 8th Most Friends endeavor to be careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances, and to avoid involving themselves in business beyond their ability to manage.

They appear to be just in their dealings, and mostly punctual with their engagements, yet more care in these respects would be advisable.

Ans 9th It is believed the records are carefully attended to. — No removals without certificate.

Ans 10th Some care is taken to deal with offenders, and to place judgment where it appears necessary as queried after, but it has not always been done as timely as would have been beneficial. —

Answers to Epistles from other Yearly Meetings 1897

From New England to Iowa

Dear Friends:

Your epistle of 10th mo last, written in the love and good will for us has been received, and we feel drawn nearer to you by these paternal messages. "Iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." Unto them we cannot have the living epistles present at all times, it is a great comfort to us to commune at heart one another by means of written communications.

We have also received Epistles from the other Yearly Meetings within the circle of our correspondence, together with a general epistle from Phila Yearly Mt. and they were real tokens of edification and comfort. We were much reminded of the declaration concerning the first Epistles of which we have any record — "written and sent for their sakes and for the sake of the churches and ours, for whatsoever things were read in our assemblys we rejoiced for the consolation."

Doubtless Epistolary correspondence among Yearly Meetings of the same faith, still has its usefulness in stirring up by way of remembrance, and to greater faithfulness in the maintenance of the testimonies which Geo. Fox and others left to the world as rich legacies and that we are not to cast them aside as of little moment but to gird on the whole armor of God — that we may guard them as a sacred trust from the wiles of the enemy who would trample them under his feet, and utterly lay waste all which makes the Society of Friends a peculiar people.

"Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high" said our Lord — and we must believe that Geo. Fox heeded the injunction; for he received power when the Holy Ghost fell upon him — for he went to battle with weapons which were not "carnal" but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds" — and he and the early Friends like him came out more than conquerors through

Christ to lead them.

When Friends everywhere are willing to humble themselves, take up their daily cross and walk with their God in meekness of life as Geo. Fox did, the dawn of that better day for which we pray, the Society will be hastened!

"Behold the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save, neither his ear heavy that it cannot hear" the cries of His obedient children.

When the breaches have been repaired and the wealth of the Society again recovered; (and Ezekiel is sufficient for these things) into confidence may we look for the fulfillment of the prophetical declaration. "I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning"

During the reading of the answers to the queries showing our deficiencies and shortcomings much valuable counsel was given. It was feelingly expressed that in no better way can we show to the world our self denying life than by the attendance of all our Midweek meetings; and in the dealings with our members no offender unless it be done in the spirit of meekness and wisdom, all our efforts to reclaim them will be unavailing.

It was clearly shown that we are to look to our children for our successors and unless they are brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord and given a guarded Education, the Society which has been as a city set upon a hill that cannot be hid will lose its prestage.

The attendance at our Yearly Meeting was a little larger than last year, and it is with feelings of gratitude that we can say, that all the business claiming our attention was conducted in much harmony. It was felt that the canopy of our Heavenly Fathers love was over us, and we feel that it is only through His unmerited mercies that we can say to you farewell in the Lord.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting.

J. H. Foster Clerk

(Copy)

From New England to Canada 1897

Dear Friends,

At this our Annual assembling we feel our minds drawn towards you in a measure of Gospel love and while fully conscious of our weakness, we are enabled to realize that help is laid upon One who is Mighty, able to save even to the utmost all those who put their trust in the Lord and lean not to their own understanding. How consoling the language when tried even to a hairs breadth, "As the Mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is around about his people, even from henceforth and forever more." Let us not then give place to the tempter, who would because of the discouragements sometimes presented to our minds try to persuade us to turn back and walk no more with our crucified and risen Savior.

If as we most surely believe our religious Society was raised up by the Great Head of the Church to revive primitive Christianity, and firmly stand for all the precepts as well as example of Christ Jesus our Lord, let us not abandon these precious doctrines and testimonies because of the Cross. It is encouraging to know that among the various denominations of professing Christians, many of our distinguishing doctrines and testimonies are now acknowledged as true and just, and we rejoice in the spread of the principles of Peace so that many Nations now look toward Arbitration in the settlement of disputes instead of War.

The Lord our God is as able now as ever He was in any age of the world to cause us all to gather to the Standard of Truth, and to display the Banner there of to a [illegible] and may we not believe that many will yet turn there to and fight with Spiritual weapons in the army of the Lamb. When this is the case no weapon formed against them shall prosper, and they shall realize that in the everlasting

God, the Creator of the earth, fainteth not neither is weary, and there is no searching his understanding. He giveth power to the faint, and to them that have no might he increaseth strength."

We received your acceptable epistle of 6th mo of last year and were much refreshed and encouraged by its contents. Salutations of love renewedly reminding us of the benefit of a religious correspondence with Coordinate bodies of Friends. Your words of cheer and stimulation are very precious to us in our tried and low conditions, and we crave to be enabled to lay hold of the promises of the Holy Scriptures as quoted in your epistle, that we may grow in grace, and in the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, whom to know is life eternal.

We see the fulness and fullness of the precious promises, which God in different ages of the world has given to his exercised and redeemed children. These shall all be taught of God — "They shall grow up as calves of the stall. They shall bring forth fruit in old age. They shall be fat and flourishing".

How many are the trials and baptisms which are needful ere we come to the measure of the stature of the fullness of spiritual growth. For the Natural Man understandeth not the things of the Spirit of God neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. This attention to the openings of the Spirit in preaching the Gospel has ever been one of the characteristics of the Society of Friends, and may the day never come when this testimony of waiting for the arising of Divine life in the soul shall be discarded. If words spoken by Divine Authority, may reach the witness for truth in the heart while a long discourse never designedly worded, if not prompted by the Spirit

may hinder the flowing of Divine love in sweet communion with God. The Psalmist says "My soul wait thou only upon God, for my expectation cometh from him."

Epistles have been received from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, and their weighty words and encouraging language are very helpful, and we desire to feel truly thankful for all these favors and kind attentions.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

John D. Cadbury

(Copy)

To Friends in England

Dear Friends

The time for holding our Yearly Meeting having arrived - we have assembled for that purpose in the fear of the Lord, & have assumed the responsible task of conducting the affairs of the Church to the honor of Him, who is the head of all right government & we believe without his helping hand, we should be wanting in weakness - and if we look to him for guidance and direction, our labors will not be wholly in vain.

In the reading of your Epistle of 10th mo last year and others from the different Yearly Meetings with which we correspond we have been made to rejoice that you have been remembered, and that your labors were strengthening & in upholding the principles and testimonies, which we and should be dear to all who desire the welfare of our religious Society.

It is a time when the enemy of all good seems especially desirous to tread down and bring into discipute many of the distinctive features

of our Society, which have ever been dear to us, and which we are commissioned to uphold before the World. It is encouraging to find that there are yet a few here and there, who are not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, which is the power of God unto salvation to them that believe.

There is no other name given under Heaven or among men, whereby we can be saved but by the Name of Jesus and Him crucified.

He is the leader of his people—a merciful and tender Father—a light and guide along the slippery paths of life, a consoler when trouble and disappointments arise and "mediate in every needful time". Let us more and more be made willing to take His yoke upon us and learn of Him and in true humility and meekness, know the establishment of His Kingdom in our hearts. If this were the happy experience of all under our name, how would our "light break forth as the morning", our righteousness go before us, and the glory of the Lord be our reward. Then should we be enabled to build again the "old waste places", and the Church would come up out of the wilderness "clear as the sun fair as the moon, and terrible as an army with banners".

It is owing to the sorrowful discovery want of a due attendance of midweek meetings and those for discipline. A neglect of this important duty has always been the source of a living concern to faithful Friends, and much labor has oftimes been exercised on this account. In the attendance of them, and especially of those held in the middle of the week, we bear a testimony to the world that we consider the worship of our Heavenly Father of more importance than our worldly concerns. How can we expect the blessing to rest upon us when we neglect the worship of Him in whom we

live, and move and have our being."

It is satisfactory to note that in your epistle you speak of the number of the youth and younger friends in attendance during the sittings of your meetings.

May they be encouraged to thus mingle with you on these occasions and may their hearts be touched - their understandings enlightened as in the Divine presence, & they be made willing now whilst their hearts are yet tender to enlist under the banners of the "Prince of Peace." "It is good for a man that he bear the yoke of Christ in his youth."

We have at this time the company of several friends from other Yearly Mtgs. & their labors of love have been salutary, and their company encouraging to us. We finally bid them farewell. "Be perfect be of good comfort, be of one mind live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

J. H. Foster Clk

(Copy)

"From New England to Kansas Yr. Mt.

Dear Friends:

We have again been permitted to assemble together in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting - There are a few with us from other Yearly Meetings among the number are Enoch Carter and wife from yours, whose presence and labors are very acceptable to us. Epistles have been read from all the Yearly Meetings with whom we correspond and they have tended to strengthen the bonds that bind those of the same household of faith

together, true binding separated as to the outward. The reading of the Lessons has brought before us some of the shortcomings among the few of us that are still remaining, and we are favored with good counsel and admonition of exercised ones which we trust will cause deep searching of heart among us that each one may be brought to realize that the Babylonish garment, the silver and gold must be taken away before we can stand before the enemy that is ever ready to destroy that which is good and perfect. May we never found on the watch that he gain no advantage over us, for his ways tend to distruction and death.

In this day of seeking to hear, or to tell some new thing, there are a few who trust who are not turned aside to inquire into those things that are not for us to know, but rather patiently sitting at the feet of Him (in whom is all power) to learn of his ways as he sees fit to make them known to us. It is on this rock that the Church is built and against which the powers of evil shall not prevail, neither shall we make afraid.

May we work shoulder to shoulder in building up the waste places under the direction of Him who called us here to, that the building may be perfect in all its parts, lacking nothing.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

— Wm. H. Foster
Clerk

(Copy)

From New England to Ohio Yr. Mo.

Dear Friends.

In a measure of that love which binds together the members of the living Church of Christ we desire to dwell, and we trust and believe that it is in a fresh renewal of such love in the bonds of Christian fellowship and true faith that we salute you at this time, desiring above all things your preservation and our own, in that which will build you up and give you an inheritance among them that are sanctified.

We have met together in this our annual gathering in much weakness and poverty of spirit, in the scarcely strength sufficient to lay hold of the promises of faith, fearing even to write to you a letter lest the living qualification be wanting; yet we have been favoured to experience in some measure a renewing of that which may become strength in weakness and a present help in every needful time.

Your kind and fraternal epistle of 9th mo. last has been received, and read to our satisfaction and comfort and we feel to acknowledge such tender lessons and admonitions as may be drawn thence from.

We feel it is indeed a great privilege to be joined in correspondence with you and with others who have suffered with ourselves a similar measure of distress and travail of spirit for the pure cause of truth as revealed to our fathers.

We know not what it is for many weary years to be cut off from our brethren in every direction with none to speak words of comfort in times of desolation.

But in these latter years your tendersympathy has been made manifest and we have felt to oneness with you and a consciousness of your interests in us, which has encouraged us to hold fast to our faith and press forward

towards the mark for the prize of the high call-
ing of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

We feel more
and more the fullness of that Kind of faith
which can turn away from the pure Spiritual
food — from the hand of the Giver all and
and prefer the hollow forms of human invention
in which there can be no Spiritual vitality.

God is a spirit and is only seen and
known or felt by the spirit, hence it is that man
cannot come to him by an outward knowledge
which he may possess, but all who would know
him must place themselves in a waiting attitude
and submit to the washings of regeneration and
renewings of the Holy Spirit, in order that the
Spiritual nature may be raised into domin-
ion and fitted to discern the still small voice.

Under the shadow of the Divine
love we long to dwell, where there is safety away
from the turmoil and strife of the world: yet
living in the world we are still subject to the
weaknesses of the flesh even as was the Psalmist
himself, who was said to be a man after the
Lord's own heart: yet he committed many
and grievous sins at times: but was afterwards
favored to find a place of repentance and not-
withstanding all his faults was permitted
and qualified to sing the songs of Zion.

We are fully convinced
Dear Friends: that the Lords cause and the
welfare of our society can only be promoted by the
separation and individual purity of those
who would serve him: thus the whole building of
God, even the true Church of our Lord depends upon
the purity and fitness of the separate stones of
which the edifice is composed. As these
are separated & prepared under the divine hand
each will fill his own place in the temple which
is thus "built upon the foundation of the Apostles

and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the Chief Corner Stone, in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord"

"We will therefore our desire and prayer unto our Heavenly Father is, that he would grant you as well as ourselves, according to the riches of his glory to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man" and "to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God".

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting.

Thomas H. Foster
Clerk

Copied by Wm. H. F.

From our England to India Yearly Meeting

Our Friends;

A general Epistle issued by Friends Yearly Meeting at its last annual session and addressed to all the Meetings bearing the name of Friends and the Members composing them, was read in our Meeting at this time to our edification and satisfaction.

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth glad tidings."

Our hearts are almost made to faint by the way, this greeting in gospel love to our brethren has been a comfort and an encouragement.

True knowledge with many of us are indeed small and weak, and few in numbers. The fathers who were valiant in the Lords cause, have been taken from us and we are almost ready to cry as did the Prophets of old, when he said "for they

have forsaken the Covenant, thrown down Christ's altars, and slain His prophets with the sword;".

Since epistolary correspondence if conducted under the guidance and direction of the unerring spirit of Christ is no doubt a source of strength to the Co-ordinate bodies, we feel that it is right upon the occasion to declare that our only reliance, and that we must not look to any human aid alone. We have remembered that the everlasting God the Lord the Creator of the ends of the earth fainteth not neither is weary &c. He giveth power to the faint, and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary, and shall walk and not faint."

As this epistle by the terms of the note preceding its text gives notice that the body issuing it expects that no answer will be made thereto it was carried to this meeting right and left to direct the Clerk to make a copy of this minute to the Clerk of Phila. Yearly Meeting as evidence that it has been received and read.

Signed at direction and on behalf of the Meeting.

Lloyd St. Foster
Clerk

Copied for
Phila. Yr. M.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westerly Rhode Island commencing 10th of 6th Month 1898 Meetings for worship on first day the 12th of 6th month 1898 and on 2d day morning the 13th. with those for discipline.

Accounts have been received from R.I. and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings by which the following named Friends have been appointed to represent them in this Meeting. Viz from Rhode Island Thomas Perry, Amos C. Foster, John H. Foster, Edwin B. Foster, Charles Perry and John Barclay Foster. From Sandwich Jesse Tucker, Job S. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker and Geo. H. Gifford whose names, having been called, they were all present except one.

Our beloved Friend Benjamin W Wood attended this Meeting with a minute from Pickering Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Pickering Ontario Canada held 5th of 3d mo. 1894 stating that he is a minister in unity with them, and liberating him to visit in the love of the Gospel Friends and Others as way opens therefor throughout Canada Yearly Meeting, also Friends and Others within the limits of Western and Ohio Yearly Meetings, and to visit parts within within the limits of Philadelphia, North Carolina and New England Yearly Meeting.

This minute was Endorsed by Yonge Street Quarterly Meeting held at Yonge Street 5th. mo. 26th. 1894 also by the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held at Pickering 23d of 6th mo. 1894 and re-endorsed by Pickering Monthly Meeting of Friends held 9th. mo. 2d 1897.

His Company and Gospel Labors have been strengthening and encouraging to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a Copy of this minute.

Our beloved friend Elias A. Varney attended this Meeting with a certificate from West Lake Monthly Meeting held at Bloomfield, Ontario, Canada 7th Mo. 15 1894. Endorsed by West Lake Four months Meeting held at Athens 10th Mo. 2d 1894 and by the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held at Pickering 19th of 6th Mo. 1894 - liberating her to visit in Gospel love the Meetings and scattered members of Friends residing in California and Tennessee; and attend some of the Yearly and Quarterly Meetings on the way either going or returning, if way opens therefor, also to appoint some meetings among Friends and others, and such other service as she may feel required of her and Truth direct. Her company and gospel labors have been comforting, encouraging and strengthening to us. and the Clerk is directed to sign such a minute as the Women's Meeting may prepare.

Our beloved friend Joseph Elkinton of Media, a member of Phila Yearly has been with us at this time, and his company and Gospel labors have been encouraging and helpful to us and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

We have received and read at this time, much to our encouragement and instruction weighty Epistles from Canada, Ohio Iowa, Western and Kansas Yearly Meetings, and we appoint our friends Jesse Tucker J. Barclay Foster, Jos S. Gulley John W. Foster James A Tucker Jonathan Kenworthy and Geo. K. Gifford a Committee to prepare as way opens for us Essays of replies thereto, and produce at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We appoint Amos D Carter and Geo. K. Foster to prepare a summary of the answers to the queries and present at our sitting this afternoon

Charles Perry and George H. Gifford are appointed to examine and settle the treasurers account and to prepare a blank for treasurer and report at the future sitting.

The representatives are requested to confer together at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a friend to serve the meeting as clerk and another for assistant clerk and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the 4th. hour this afternoon

Second day afternoon the 12th. met pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the representatives being called there were present as at our last sitting.

Charles Perry on behalf of the representatives reported that they had been together and were united in the reappointment of John W Foster for Clerk and Jos. S. Gidley for assistant clerk, and their names being separately considered were approved and they are appointed and they are appointed to those services for the ensuing year.

The State of Society was introduced at this time, by the reading of the queries and answers thereto, and a summary thereof having been prepared by the friends named for that at the morning sitting, it was also read and directed to be recorded.

Friends were brought under exercise by the deficiences reported, and a travail of spirit prevailed, that each individual member might dwell in a state of watchfulness unto prayer.

Our attention was called to the precious privilege of communion with the Father of Spirits at our meeting, when

the sweetness of Divine love so rests upon the spirit as to amply compensate for the effort which it costs to leave our business for the purpose of Divine worship: and Friends were warned against giving way to undue discouragement because of the small attendance of these meetings, or for any cause whatever; but to persevere in well doing and leave the results with Him who only requires faithfulness at our hands. — And we were reminded of the importance of laboring with delinquent members, only under that Divine influence and guidance which can reach the witness for Truth in the heart; and that when our dear young Friends come to feel the preciousness of waiting upon the Lord for help, they will delight to meet for that purpose. The care needful to bear in mind our own short comings, and to feel that charity which we ought towards all was referred to, and in all things Friends were commended to that sure Teacher who will preserve our souls in all trials and perplexities and be our strong and exceeding great reward.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were produced and read at this time, in both Men's and Women's Meetings, and their proceedings approved in. It is concluded to appoint the same friends as last year to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year. Women Friends' waiting here in

Adjourned to the 3d hour 3d day afternoon the 14th.

Third day afternoon the 14th. near the time adjourned to Friends again assembled

The names of the representatives being called they were present as at our last sitting

The committee appointed at our sitting on Second day morning to examine and settle the Treasurers account and to propose a Friend for Treasurer Produced the following, Viz:—

The committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers account and to propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer have attended to that service they find the account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed. The balance on hand is Fourteen hundred fifty and 32/100 Dollars. They recommend the appointment of J. Barclay Foster to serve this meeting as Treasurer for the ensuing year.

On behalf of the committee
Geo. Amasa Gifford.

Which is satisfactory to this meeting and John Barclay Foster is appointed Treasurer of this meeting for the ensuing year.

The committee appointed to have the care of procuring and distributing Books and Tracts have presented the following report Viz

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting to have the care of circulating Friends Books and Tracts, report that they have given the subject some attention and have distributed a considerable number of these, and of Juvenile literature, as way seemed to open for such work, and have received expressions of satisfaction from some of the recipients thereof.

They have replenished their stock through the Friends Book and Tract Depository in Phila. and the funds for paying the same have been furnished by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting

Geo. S. Foster on behalf of the

Which is acceptable to the Meeting, and it is directed to continue the same Committee, with the addition of the name of our friend Joseph Foster, and they are encouraged to continue their labors in this direction.

The Committee appointed at our first sitting to prepare Essays of Replies to the Epistles from the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond have produced such, and they are adopted by the Meeting; and the Clerk is directed to transcribe, and forward them to the Meetings addressed. Viz Ohio, Canada, Iowa, Kansas and Western Yearly Meetings.

It is concluded to print the minutes of this Meeting, also the minutes of the Women's Meeting, together with the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings, and the care of the same is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

The Clerk is authorized to make all necessary extracts from the minutes of this Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

The business coming before us having now been completed we conclude with a feeling of thankfulness that Divine Goodness has been pleased to help our infirmities; and as we have waited on him to strengthen our hearts. As we separate to return to our homes respective homes, & may the Lord's individual presence be our experience day by day, enabling us to keep in a humble and watchful state, that whether we all return another year or not, we may be permitted to fill up the measure of our sufferings for the bodies sake which is the Church, and our lamps be found

Friend and brother,

We propose to meet at this place next year if consistent with the Divine will.

John N. Foster Clerk

Summary of the answers to the Queries

Ans 1st All of our meetings for religious worship and discipline have been maintained; those on first days are generally attended by most of our members; mid-week meetings and those for discipline not as well attended. The hour is pretty well observed with a few exceptions; smoking clear of sleeping and no other unbecoming behavior noticed. One account of late some care has been taken on account of the deficiences.

Ans. 2d Love and unity appear to be maintained and detraction guarded against, no differences have come to our knowledge.

Ans. 3 We fear there is some want of a living concern among our members, to bring up their children and those under their care in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel, and also to be examplars themselves. We exhort them guard against pernicious reading and corrupt conversation and that the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in their families.

4th. Friends avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine, with perhaps one exception, and we think the unnecessary frequenting of public places, and we believe generally use moderation and temperance on all occasions.

Ans. 5th No Friends among us have been in need of pecuniary assistance since our last account. No. Children placed from among Friends.

Ans. 6th. We think parents and heads of families exercise some care and proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline, but some of the young and unmarried manifest but little care in this respect.

7th Friends appear to bear a testimony against a paid ministry, except that a few attend meeting at times where such ministry exists. They are clear relative to the other matters referred to in this query.

Ans. 8th We think Friends are attached to their Promises just in the payment of their debts and endeavor to live within the bounds of their circumstances. Yet there appears to have been some want of care in a few to engage in business beyond their ability to manage.

Ans. 9th Our records are generally attended to. One removal without a certificate.

Ans. 10th. A care rests with Friends to deal with offenders when necessary according to discipline, but owing to our weakness and small numbers, a neglect is apparent in this respect.

Epistle to Ohio Yearly Meetings 1808

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends

Our treasure as we believe of that heavenly nature, it is our best welfare of all, we again salute you with desire you may still be found among those, who are striving to make a daily progress in those things which pertain to their eternal salvation. The faith of the Christian church, and ours is a daily striving to follow meekness and humility, the steps of our dear and master, who declared, "learn of me."

Obedience to the cross, to everything here breaks many of the lusts and pride of life, and raises to the hill of virtue and submission, our love of ease, and the unhallowed pleasures of this world. He was crucified unto it, that he may live in him again in newness of life, putting off all guile, and to all vanity and putting on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

The followers of our Lord and Master must expect that the path which they desire to pursue will be overmixed with trials and discouragements. These are often allotted to the Christian traveller, to bring him and to keep him in dependance on his heavenly master, and out of himself he can do no good thing. Surrounded

all these disappointments and trials, may we be enabled to look beyond them with an eye of faith, and in humble adoration say the Lord reigneth.

At the present time we think there is much concern in the world and much christian feeling in the minds of many, to declare the precepts of Christ and the purity of the work which he sought to accomplish, which was recommended by the

praising God and saying "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and good will towards men." by praying for the welfare of Zion and the prosperity of truth & righteousness and the revengeful feelings of war to have no place in the heart of the faithful. It becomes us as Friends to be very careful that our testimony against all war be ever borne in mind, and that we are careful to cultivate a peaceful and forgiving spirit.

There is a watchword now as at any former time that our Society should live up to the principles which they profess, and the exhortation of Christ to his disciples is especially applicable at the present time. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

Your excellent epistle of 10th. mo. last, has been received, also epistles from the other Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, and have been read to our satisfaction. They all manifest a concern that our Christian, principle purity, may be maintained, that none be suffered to fall to the ground.

It is cheering to find that there are those who endeavoring to press on in the path of self denial, and not seeking an easier way to the Kingdom than by the way of the Cross. "Christ is the door into the sheep-fold; he that climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber."

It is with much satisfaction that we have the company of several dear friends from other Yearly Meetings and we gladly desire that their visit may not be barren unto us, but may find a ready entrance into our hearts, and we "as a people favored by the Master" assembled in a sure place," kept to be daily renewed. We have been reminded that if we would bear fruit we must abide in the Vine;

for unless we drink sap and nourishment we therefrom we cannot be as one, branches in the true vine, but as only as we abide in Christ, in true life that we can expect to flourish and bring forth fruit to the honor of the great Husbandman.

Though coming together with the feeling of weakness poverty and nakedness and unworthy of the least of the mercies we yet through the encouraging language of our Shepherd, we humbly trust his watchful care is extended over us, and that his blessed presence has been felt among us, to the tendering and refreshing of our hearts.

For this and other manifold blessings, received from his bountiful hand, we feel that thanksgiving and praise are due to his great and adorable name.

With the salutation of love we remain your friends
Signed by direction and on behalf
of the Meeting.

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends.

We have again been favored to meet in the capacity of a Yearly meeting and though few as to numbers, we have been enabled to feel that we have not been forsaken by the indwelling Shepherd of Israel. Allow meetings for discipline have been favored seasons, in which the promise of old seemed to have been verified by the assurance of his blessed presence in our midst.

Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond have been received, and read to our comfort and edification, wanting as to feel that though we may be

...ry in our views as to outward, yet do we in-
...feel that we all belong to the same household
...of faith, bowing the same precious truths
...believing & the same rule, minding the same thing,
...and being led by the same spirit which will ever
...we submit ourselves thereunto in all humility,
...lead us into and keep us in that path of
...holiness wherein the righteous of the Lord do walk.

The old Adam must be crucified & slain, and "the new man who after God is created in righteousness and true holiness" must be put on" and as the new temple exceeded the old in glory, so likewise will the new man surpass the old, being born again, not of corruptible seed but of "that incorruptible seed and word of God which liveth and abideth forever."

We have at this time several dear friends from other Yearly Meetings, among whom are two with certificates from yours, whose company and gospel labors we have been comforting and helpful to us; and we trust that He who sent them will cause them to return with the peaceful reward of those who labor in His vineyard.

We, as well as you, would rejoice to see all nations settling their differences by arbitration instead of war, believing that when Jesus said to his disciples, "I come not to destroy men's lives but to save them," He spoke of the natural as well as the spiritual life; and surely the Holy Spirit teaches to love our enemies and do them no harm. We hope through present conditions (not discouraging) that the day is approaching (it may be slowly) in which "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

One thing we know, the Lord's power is over all, and as we trust in Him alone, He will

keep us in perfect peace.

With the Salutation of love, I remain your friend
signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting,

To Kansas Yearly Meeting of Friends
Dear Friends:

The reading of your Epistle of [illegible] together with the share in that token of our correspondence, was indeed comforting, edifying and instructive and our visiting brethren were brought very near to us in Spirit, and desires were begotten that this circle might be enlarged.

A few Friends from other Yearly Meetings are now with us, giving evidence that we are not forsaken by the great Head of the Church, inasmuch as He hath in his condescending love and mercy been pleased to send these messengers among us who have testimonies the unsearchable riches of our Heavenly Father's love. We have been enabled to transact the business of this Yearly Meeting in much harmony and the language proclaimed at the advent of our Saviour of old was revived; "glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good will to men."

We were also made very sensibly to feel that the enemy has overspread this nation into its present sorrowful condition is not in accordance with the teachings of Christ, and that the mission of the Society of Friends in the world is by no means ended; and may we, dear friends, as a people and as individuals endeavor to be found faithful to our duty as it shall be manifested to us to promote in the world those principles of love that were throughout the length and breadth of our land, which were set forth by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ when upon earth) until that better day shall dawn foretold by the prophet, "Then nation shall no longer lift up sword

a nation neither shall they learn war any more; but their swords shall be beaten into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks, and the people of the earth shall dwell together in brotherly and love,"

May we take, dear friends, a closer walk with God, a more thorough dedication of heart, with all people under our care, that they be prepared for the work whereunto they are called; for our Saviour hath declared that "whosoever will come after him, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily and follow me, he cannot be my disciple;" and "whosoever shall be ashamed to be called a fool for Christ's sake, of him shall the Son of Man be ashamed" by dress, language and appearance, that they are Friends. Christ himself has declared that, "Whosoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will I also be ashamed before my Father and his angels."

We would encourage all the dear young people among you to listen diligently to the voice of the true Shepherd of the flock, that they may be comforted and strengthened to bear a testimony for truth's honor before a gainsaying world; "and be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds," that each one may know what the will of the Lord is concerning them, that they become "living epistles, seen and read of all men."

Finally, dear friends, may you and we likewise be made fully to realize the truth of the words of the Psalmist: "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

With the salutation of love we remain your friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting,

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends

From our little annual gathering in the love we are favored to assemble in this year of our Lord one thousand and nine hundred and forty eight; we find it our privilege to salute you again in love, even that love in which we trust and believe is like in some measure to the love wherewith Christ hath loved us, and hath given himself for us all.

We have received a printed letter from you at this time which comes as an influence to strengthen the things that remain; and we are comforted therein, believing that our heavenly Father still cares for all who endeavor to serve Him, even though they may fall short, at times of their full duty, and be found wanting in many things.

We are fully aware that as it was in the days of the apostles, so it is now that the love of the world hath blinded the eyes of men; "for all that is in the world, the lusts of the flesh the lust of the eye and the pride of life is not of the Father, but is of the world; and the world passeth away and the lusts thereof, but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."

This is indeed the difficult task of human experience to do the will of the Father; but he hath not left us without evidence of his living presence and does indeed reveal unto the children of men all that can be required to guide them in the paths of righteousness and peace.

We are met together in weakness and fear; weak in numbers and poor in spirit, and fearful we may come short in the extended opportunity; neither can we address you as those who think to give council; but on the other hand, we desire council of you and ask your prayers unto the Father of Spirits

that we may be inspired with so much power from on high as to live in our day and generation in obedience to our great Father and forgiven even as he is the Lord.

We have longed for the coming of that time foreshadowed by the Prophet when the evil passions of men should be subdued; when they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks and nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." Yet notwithstanding these long cherished hopes and the prayers of the faithful for many generations, it is evident that the time is not yet; and even as we meet together the noise of a mighty conflict is upon us, and violence and blood shed have involved our beloved country.

We feel that war with all its horrors might have been averted had more patience been exercised on the part of our legislative rulers; but the question also arises, have we been faithful as we knew? has our Society and the individual members thereof been found in their allotted places, working in the fear of the Lord towards peace and condemning all violence? The hand of the oppressor has been heavy upon our neighboring people, and it is natural to sympathize with the oppressed; yet the example of our Lord and his precepts have taught us a better way than violence; and the history of our Society has demonstrated that the irresistable weight of meekness is more powerful than arms to overcome oppression. We fear that our Society has partially failed in its duty in this important matter; that we have not been instant in season to lift up a warning cry against all war; but however this may be, the conflict is now far beyond the influence we can hope to exert, and there

seems to be nothing left for us but to heed the injunction of the Prophet "Come my people, enter thou into thy chamber and shut the doors about thee: hide thyself for a little moment until the indignation be overpassed." "For behold the Lord cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity."

There can be no safe place but under the shadow of the divine presence; And here we long to dwell where the canopy of infinite love is spread around us, safe from the storm of battle; and as we rest in him we may know him to be our sure dwelling place and experience the fulfilment of the promise. "There shall no evil befall thee neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

With love we remain your friends

To Dover Yearly Meeting of Friends
Dear Friends

As we again meet this year to transact the business of our Yearly Meeting our hearts are drawn to you we trust in the constraining love of Christ, and we would address you as brethren beloved, encouraging to faithful your allotted mission as a branch of the Christian Church.

Your lively epistle, replete with comfort and encouragement, seemed to us through Divine condescension to be peculiarly adapted to our weak condition, and we have in measure craved for renewed ability to express our sense of appreciation for such unmerited mercies. "Surely God is good unto Israel, and to such as are of a clean heart." And we doubt not will so apply all your warnings as you continue to abide in the vine, the living vine that so you may bring forth fruit to the praise and glory of his ever excellent name. "As abide in the [illegible] of

every good and perfect gift, who hath wrought all our works in us — is pleased his servants to partake in the work and glory in Christ Jesus.

"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!"

Whilst dear young Friends are here among you "as workmen who need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth;" yet these cannot do the work for you. Though they become as pillars in the Church, do not rely to go out for us; but remember that these became so only through the deeply tried discipline of the Cross of Christ — through much suffering and the overturning of the Lord's hand upon them.

We would encourage you to press forward and in living faith lay hold of the precious promises of God, as recorded in the Holy Scriptures and as revealed to your own souls. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to mankind, and the Lord with the temptation will make a way for your escape that you may be able to bear it."

We trust dear friends, that you will be faithful in this trying time, when our National Government is engaged in war, to firmly stand for the principles of peace as exemplified and taught by our blessed Saviour.

We recommend that watchfulness, even with prayer to God; that by no act or word we subject ourselves to the influence of the potent, ever present and sweeping spirit with the awful vortex of strife and bloodshed. Let us cast all our care upon the Prince of Peace, Who

safe, for he is the King of kings and the Lord of Lords, and is able to overrule all for his own glory and the good of mankind.

Some of you, dear friends, who have been with us, know that we are but a few weak ones, and you have (blessed be the Lord) been dipped into a sense of our true condition, and we desire that when you are favored with near access to the throne of grace you may lift up your petitions on our behalf that we may each one in our measure ascertain the talents given us whether few or many — that in the awful day of trial we may be found ready "to enter through the gates into the City." We have received Epistles from all the other Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, and it seemed to us they were willing in mercy in much to visit their love, but under a deep sense of our need, and of the continued care of David's unslumbering Shepherd to the little scattered remnants of the flock.

We have the acceptable company of several ministers from other Yearly Meetings whose labors in the love the Gospel have been much comfort and help to us that we are strengthened thereby. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that brings the good tidings of good that publisheth peace and salvation that saith unto Zion thy God reigneth."
There continues to be a living baptized ministry among this back-sliding people.
Surely the mercies of the Lord are very great. Let us learn more and more worthy of his favor by implicit obedience to his teachings, for he continues to teach us as never man spake, and will lead, counsel and direct his little ones who put their trust in him alone.

We are truly mindful of the unsettled and tried conditions of Friends in many of the Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and also on the other side of the Atlantic. For as well as we, dear Friends, have experienced trials and tribulations, enabling us to enter into sympathy with all the tried remnants of the members of our Society wherever situated; but we may and see with the eye of faith that the time will come when the "Watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing, for they shall see eye to eye when the Lord shall bring again Zion."

We do desire the "Lord make bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the Salvation of our God."

With the Salutation of love we remain your friends and brethren,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

John H. Foster Clerk

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held at Westerly R.I. commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First day the Eleventh of Sixth month 1899. and on second day morning the 12th for discipline

Reports have been received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings by which it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting.
From Rhode Island George Foster Chambers Sam Anna C. Foster, Lydia C. Foster John Barclay Foster and John W. Foster. From Sandwich Jesse Foster, Jr. A. H. Gifford, James H. Tucker and John L. Gilley - neither Minister being called they were all present.

Our beloved Friend Rebecca Haines attended this Meeting with a minute from New Garden Monthly Meeting of Friends held 2d of 5th mo. 1899. Liberating him to visit in Gospel love Friends of Salem Quarterly Meeting, the Meetings of Friends Quarterly Meeting, Friends of Rimmey Monthly meeting, Friends in New England and the approaching Yearly Meeting of Canada.
His ministry and gospel labors have been comforting and encouraging to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

Our beloved Friend Elihu Harvey attended this Meeting with a minute from Fall Creek Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Norwich Indiana 2nd mo. 8. 1899 Setting forth his prospect to visit in the love of the Gospel Philadelphia and New England Yearly meetings, and the meetings belonging to them, by appointment or otherwise as he with may open the way, and to attend to such other religious service as may be called for

This minute was endorsed by White Lick Quarterly Meeting held 5th mo. 11 1899.

His company and gospel labors have been comforting and strengthening to us and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

Our beloved friend Lyman W. Haines attended this Meeting with a minute from from Spring River Monthly Meeting of Friends held 28th mo. 1st 1899. Endorsed by Spring River Quarterly Meeting held 2nd mo. 2nd 1899. Liberating him to visit in gospel love Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, to labor in its limits as way may open; to attend New England and Canada Yearly Meetings and the Meetings composing them, by appointment or otherwise, and to labor among those not in membership with those Meetings as Truth may open the way while engaged in this service. His company and gospel labors have been encouraging and strengthening to us, and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

Our beloved friend Ida R. Thanner attended this Meeting with a certificate from Cottonwood Monthly Meeting of Friends held 5th mo. 13. 1899 - Endorsed by Cottonwood Quarterly Meeting held 5th mo. 20, 1899, liberating her to visit in the love of the gospel New England and and Canada Yearly Meetings, and some of the Meetings belonging to them. Her company and gospel labors have been Encouraging, comforting and strengthening to us. And the clerk is directed to furnish her with a copy of this minute.

Our dear friends Enoch and Catherine Lester attended this Meeting with a minute

from Spring River monthly meeting of Friends held 5th mo 20 1899. liberating them in accompanying Wm. Robinson in the gospel ministry religious service informing that Friends liberty with them, their companies & visits of Love & Gospel fellowship have been comforting to us.

Our beloved friend Thomas Shore attended this meeting with a minute from West Grove monthly meeting of Friends liberating him to accompany Eli Hall in his religious engagements, informing that he is an Elder in unity with them. His company and Gospel labors have been acceptable to us.

Our dear friend Anna E. Haines attended this meeting as companion to her husband Zebedee Haines, with a minute from New Garden monthly meeting, informing that she is an Elder in unity with them. Her company and Gospel labors have been acceptable to us.

We appoint John Carter & Porter to assist the Clerk in preparing & forwarding minutes for ministers and other companions now in attendance of this meeting.

We appoint Jesse Fisher and George L. Porter to dispose a summary of the answers to the queries and present at a future sitting.

Charles Perry and Jesse Fisher are appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's account, & propose a plan for Treasurer and report at a future sitting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a friend for clerk and another for assistant clerk and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon

Second day afternoon the 12th. met pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the representatives being called they are present

James L. Tucker on behalf of the representatives reports that they had conferred together and were united in proposing John H. Foster for Clerk and Joel L. Gidley for assistant Clerk. The names being separately considered were united with and they are appointed to those services respectively for the year ensuing

We have received epistles from Ohio, Western Canada, Kansas and Iowa Yearly Meetings which were read to our comfort and encouragement. John H. Foster, Jesse Tucker, J. Barclay Foster, Joel L. Gidley, Jno. L. Foster and James H. Tucker are appointed to index essays of replies to these, as may open thereto, and produce at a future sitting of this meeting.

Adjourned to the 3d hour This day the 13th.

Third day the 13th.

Over the hour adjourned to which we again assembled.

The condition of Society was taken up by the reading of the Queries and answers thereto from our Quarterly Meetings and a summary thereof having been

prepared by the committee named for that
purpose this evening it was also read, approved
and directed to be recorded. The meeting
was brought under some exercise on account of
the poor attendance of our mid week Meetings
and Meetings for discipline, and some encour-
agement and instruction was expressed in
relation thereto. It is believed that when are brought
under a living concern for the salvation of their
souls - feeling their obligation to their dear Heavenly
Father, they are glad to meet with their friends for
the purpose of Divine worship, and if this is
omitted in the middle of the week, great loss
therein. If we leave our work or business in the
middle of the week for the purpose of worshiping
Almighty God, thus manifesting our faithful
allegiance to Him - it shows to the world that we
will not permit anything whatever, to interfere
with our duty to our Heavenly Father. Friends
were encouraged to trust that no permanent loss
would be sustained, if they habitually, and
persistently left all to wait with their dear brothers
and sisters in Silent waiting upon the Lord Jesus
Christ to know his will and when such is the case
the Heavenly bread will often be broken and
partaken of to the nourishment and sustaining
of the immortal soul - even that bread of life
which comes down from Heaven.

The records of the meeting for sufferings were
read at this time and approved, a proposition
having been made that the same Friends be
re appointed to that service, with the exception
of our dear friend Thomas Perry deceased, (and
with the addition by the Women's Meeting of
Lydia D. Nichols and Susan D. Gilley) Which
united with and they are appointed to constitute a
meeting for sufferings for the ensuing year -
The women's meeting adjourning.

The committee appointed at a previous
sitting to examine and settle the Treasurs
account and name a friend for Treasurer
have attended the following report. Viz

The committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurers account and to propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer have attended to that service. They find the account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed. The balance on hand is One Thousand four hundred and seventy 80/100 Dollars ($1478,80) They recommend the appointment of J. Barclay Boston to serve the (meeting as Treasurer for the ensuing year. -

Jesse R Tucker
Charles Perry } Committee

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting, and J. Barclay Boston is appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The Book and Tract committee have presented the following report. Viz

To the Friends Meeting now in session.

A considerable number of Tracts have been distributed during the past year, a large part of them by mail — more than fifteen hundred pages have been sent for distribution in the States of Maine, Mass. and Ohio, and as many more were sent for use in the Public Institutions at Concord. Tracts have been sent to individuals in different places, and expressions of thanks and appreciation have been received from some and it is hoped that the seed thus sown may bring forth fruit. There have also a good assortment of Tracts and periodicals been distributed in Wesley to good satisfaction.

Geo. L Foster on behalf of the committee

Which report is satisfactory to the to the meeting, and the same Friends are appointed to that service for the year ensuing, and they are encouraged to continue their efforts to place before Friends and others such tracts and publications as are best suited to promote the principles and testimonies of Truth.

The Committee opened at our first sitting to prepare as many epistles for it, except of Epistles to Ohio, Kansas, Iowa, Kansas and Western Yearly Meetings, have produced such as they have been read and approved by the meeting. The clerk is directed to transcribe and forward to those meetings respectively.

The clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the minutes of this meeting and sign them on its behalf.

The kindness claiming our attention has been continued in our Elder mercy and unity of Spirit, though under a deep sense of weakness and unworthiness, we have come to feel grateful to our blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ for the overshadowing of his blessed presence, at times, during the different sittings. In a reverence of this feeling we conclude, by praying to meet at this place next year, if consistent with the Divine will

John T. Carter Clerk

Answers to the Queries

Ans. 1st All of our Meetings both for religious worship and discipline have been duly held, except one for worship, which was omitted in consequence of a severe storm.

Meetings are generally attended on first days by the greater part of our members, & some habitually neglect the attendance of mid-week meetings, and those for discipline.

The hour is not as well observed as would be desirable. cheerfulness and other unbecoming behaviour carefully avoided

Ans. 2d Love and unity prevail well maintained & detraction guarded against. No differences apparent.

Ans. 3d We think there is a want of care among Friends to bring up those under their direction in plainness of dress and language, and all are not consistent examples in these respects We trust that the Youngare mostly restrained from pernicious reading and carnal conversation, and we believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in their families

Ans. 4th Friends abstain from the use of intoxicating liquor for medical uses, with the exception — they also avoid the unnecessary frequenting of public places and endeavour to observe moderation on all occasions.

Ans 5th The circumstances of the poor are attended to. No Children placed from among Friends

Ans. 5th. Parents and heads of families are believed to be mostly careful that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline. Children coming and unmarried do not always pay sufficient regard thereto.

Ans. 6th. Friends maintain our testimonies in regard to the several matters referred to in this query except that some of our members at times attend meetings where an hireling minister is maintained.

Ans. 8th. We think Friends inspect their affairs and settle their accounts - that they are generally punctual to their promises just in the payment of their debts and endeavor to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans 9th Our records are attended to. One family has removed within our limits without presenting a certificate

Ans. 10th. One case to deal with offenders has not always been taken. No instance of fighting judgment since our last account.

Copies of Epistles to Other Yearly Meetings

To Western Quarterly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends

From our Annual Gathering, where we are again assembled we salute you in love, desiring that you as well as all under our name, may dwell in the Spiritual temple of the Lord, and [illegible] may be "strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith, and that ye may be filled with all the fulness of God."

A few of us who remain are endeavoring to keep to that which made our forefathers a separate people, which constrained them to separate themselves from the customs and manners of the world and to follow the leadings of that Spirit which enabled them to live pure and blameless lives and finally to die the death of the righteous.

We are comforted and encouraged at this time by the reading of your kind letter of 10th month last, and also by several others of a like tenor. Getting such like these which we have received within the last few years have been blessed to the strengthening of the weak hands and the confirmation of our faith.

We have also to rejoice at this time in the coming of several dear friends from abroad, sent unto us by Him who alone can qualify the ministers of Christ and clothe them with His mighty power. The labors of these favored in a tender and searching manner among us will we trust be blessed to many upon a profane life, and to the Gospel and from that it may bring forth much fruit.

We trust that there are many up and down in the land who are as a living seed, and we

from which the dear husband now may retire with
Blessed Jesus, and rejoice in the sunshine
of Heaven and that his Divine Spirit may be more
fruitful, and the Lord's name be honored in the
world.

While we realize that all power is in the
Divine hand to make the means used fruitful, yet
our Lord performs his work largely through his
human instruments, and it is only as they
become dedicated to his service that he will make
them his servants and use them in the building up
of his kingdom in the earth.

How more and more we understand that the
ancient principles & practices of your
Society, as held and lived up to by the early
Friends, contained all the essentials of the Christian
faith. True worship of the Father must be
in and of the Spirit, and while great learning
and great natural ability, when devoted to the
Lord's service, are blessed, & may become
Eminently useful in His cause, yet it is a
blessed thought that all may come personally
and freely without the mediation of any human
being, and that the simplicity of our faith is
such that neither learning nor personal power
are needed to fit us acceptably to the Father of Spirits.

The poor and the unlearned may know
him, and questions of theology which trouble
many of the wise may all be passed over
as that a simple experience in the
Redeemer's love assures unerringly for time
and eternity, and commends us for well doing, while
is abroden, lead all into the green pastures
beside the still waters of life.

We desire for you as well as ourselves
that all meetings may be held in the power,
as well as in the name of Christ; and
that we all may be diligent attenders there of
when although we may at other times and

placed wait upon the Lord in retirement.
In the midst of trials, we there is a blessedness in the [illegible] of believers, and a precious [illegible] of spiritual strength may be renewed by the assembling ourselves together in that dignified and solemn manner in which our primitive Friends met for worship.

While we feel ourselves to be poor and unworthy we have yet felt upon this occasion that our Divine Master has in some degree owned us and been present with us, and we have been permitted a little, as we believe, to partake of that holy communion which cometh down from God out of Heaven, and which needs no outward form to typify it.

We desire, brethren, that none of us may be "weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be upon them, and mercy and upon the Israel of God." Grace be with all them who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity.

With a renewed salutation of love we remain your friends.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the meeting,

John T. Morton Clerk

To Kansas Yearly Meeting of Friends
Dear Friends

Assembled once more to transact the business of our Yearly Meeting, our minds have been drawn towards you, we trust in the one bond of the love of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, who only by his eternal Spirit can baptize all his dear and devoted

followers into that blessed oneness and fellowship by which they can address each other in a known tongue, or in a strain of language as is only fitting to the ~~truely~~ true worshippers into the Spirit & Lord.

The present condition of the Christian world, as well as that of the Society of Friends, makes it important for us, under the guidings of the Spirit of Truth, to wait upon God; and to encourage one another to this, should be the work, to consider deeply whether things are right in the sight of the Most High, whether we are walking in the way of his requirings; how it is with our own minds, & whether we accept this grace & mercy of the Gospel,

The Apostle of the Cross of Christ was not of this worldly spirit which reigns in us, and we have need to stand as a united phalanx in the army of the Lamb against the preponderance of formal and ceremonial religion. If we can not do this in our own strength, in our own time or in our own way, but often great self renunciation is called for & our wills are to be made subject to the divine will.

Your beloved letter of 10th mo. last has been cordial to our feelings, and we most fully unite with you in the desire that harmony and love may more abound among us as a people. And persuaded we are that as each one esteems another better than himself and we come to know that our sufficiency is in the Lord our God, we shall not depend upon any wisdom of our own, but more and more build upon the foundation of the prophets and apostles, Jesus Christ himself being the Chief Corner Stone.

We have also received Epistles from all the other Yearly Meetings with which we correspond to the comfort and edification of Friends, confirming us of the benefit which accrues to us by this correspondence, as we

write under the influence of that Divine power which can baptize us for the work and service of the Church militant.

The service of Truth is very weighty, and it is only as we seek wisdom from on high, (as much as laborers are needed to work in the Lord's vineyard) that we can do anything for the upbuilding of the Church of Christ, and this promotes the great cause we have at heart.

The language of the Prophet applies to us as a people. "Zion shall be redeemed with judgment and her converts with righteousness."

As we are favored to abide in the quiet habitation - keeping in our wards while we strive only the cause of Truth and the glory of God in view; nothing will be permitted to molest or make afraid, and the Lord's redeemed and sanctified Children "shall grow up as calves of the stall," and they "shall know that their tabernacle shall be in peace."

Dear Young Friends, may you be encouraged to bear the yoke in your youth, and mind the smallest manifestation of the Divine light in your souls - no hard or great things that you cannot do will be called for at your hands - "as your day so shall your strength be." We entreat you - think not to put off the service for God and the Church until later in life - Consider the faithful service of the Young Friends in the rise of this Society who were not only instrumental in turning many to the "Blessed Truth" by preaching the everlasting Gospel of life and Salvation, but by personally bibliotizing the Truth to others. Some of these suffered imprisonment and death for their faithfulness in maintaining the principles and testimonies given them to bear before the

world. Shall we make light of any of these, which
so much inspiring to uphold?

There is no cause in which you can engage that
is so honorable, so noble, or so profitable. "Godliness
is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that
now is, and of that which is to come." Godliness with contentment
is great gain. The words can describe. Our Redeemer said to his beloved disciples - "My peace
I give unto you, my peace I give unto you, not as
the world giveth give I unto you.

It is now a great cause to raise our hearts in
gratitude to the great giver of every good gift,
in that He hath been pleased to send among us
anointed messengers who have been favored to
preach the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to
encourage us to press forward towards the mark
for the prize of the high calling of God in which is
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

"Finally, brethren,
farewell, Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of
one mind, live in peace; and the God of peace
and love shall be with you."

To the Dear Saints, Saints of Zion
Dear Friends

We have been favored
at present to our remembrance, the reading of
your kind and loving epistle of the 10th of
last year and desire to live in our
hearts that you with us might more and more
seek after those & other blessings which are
to be had and are promised to us.
Seek ye first the kingdom of God and
his righteousness and all these things shall
be added unto you.
To seek after the things appertaining to the king-
dom of Heaven is an assurance born of
faith that we shall find this pearl of great
price, it becomes necessary that we lay aside

our own weakness and creatures state,
and listen to the inspeaking word of divine
grace which shineth in our dark hearts,
and which is the light of Christ which bring-
-eth salvation, and which lighteth every man
that cometh into the world. And it is those
who are willing to receive him in the way of
his coming & appeareth, & every heart become
sanctified.

We have received epistles from
all the Ozark Meetings burning the latter part
of the which we correspond, and there is with them
an earnest solicitude manifested for the
building up and strengthening of the
Redeemer's kingdom.

Through human observation and foreign
discouragement I am abound to
keep out the single to the great Shepherd of
Israel & He will open a way through the sur-
-rounding gloom, and by the light of his
countenance make his little dependant ones
to find rest in safety on the banks of deliver-
-ance. He calls for faithfulness on our part
in fulfilling the high trust committed to our
keeping, and, if we are diligent herein He will
gather us as a hen gathereth a Chickens under
her wings. As in former times he
required faithfulness on the part of Israel
in keeping his Law as a condition to the bestow-
-al of his choicest blessings, so under the Gospel
priviledge faithfulness is accepted, how can
we look for his favor or support?

We have with us at this time several
families from outside our own limits, whose
company is pleasant and profitable to us
& whose religious labors combined with ours
we hope will not prove to be like the morning
dew which soon passeth away, but that the
tendency influence of our labors

cil, at times to arise in our hearts, accompanying
their labors, may abide with us when we return to our
homes and resume our daily occupations.

It is encouraging to meet with those whom
we feel have the best interests of our Society at
heart, and are laboring in their several allotments
for the upholding of the testimonies which we as
a people have been called upon to bear before the
world. It binds and strengthens us together
in the bonds of Christian unity and fellowship.
"Iron as iron sharpeneth iron so a man sharpeneth
the countenance of his friend."

We notice by your
minute that arrangements have been made for
the continuance of the schools under your care
and we hope a blessing may rest upon the
efforts therein. The placing of children and youth
as in mixed schools is fraught with much dan-
ger. Their susceptible minds are liable to receive
a bias inimical to the growth of those princi-
ples which our Society most earnestly desires
to cultivate and promote. In many of the
public schools standards of learning are set
forth for precept and training to imbue the
youthful minds with a love for military display
under the guise of Patriotism, and the war-
like feelings of the community thus fostered
and nurtured. The principles of our Society
lead towards peace and brotherly, with fair
dealing between nations as well as individ-
uals.

We have reason to believe
that our Heavenly Father yet designs to favor
us, and that the mantle of love has
at times been cast over us, and we could adopt
the language of the disciples as they pondered
"did not our hearts burn within us by the
way." These seasons of precious help
& refreshment to us — we at a loss by the way-
side — in the shadow of a great Rock in a

dear Lord.

With desires for your growth in the true blessed Truth, & increase of your increase more and more, and in a feeling of that love which desires your everlasting welfare, I remain

Your friend

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends

dear Friends.

We feel drawn to address you again and once more to transmit the weighty affairs of the Church, though it is in great weakness, and under a keen sense of our unworthiness and dependance upon our Heavenly Father for all that is good. If it had not been the Lord who was on our side," where would we now stand? "Our help is in the name of the Lord who made Heaven and earth." And yet how much stronger we might have been had we more entirely surrendered ourselves into the care and keeping of this "Mighty One who can cause one faithful one "to chase a thousand, and two to put ten thousand to flight." if they are the enemies of Truth.

We do not write to this because you know it not, dear friends, but the present condition of the Christian Church and the world call loudly for greater faithfulness on the part of the little remnants of Friends wherever located — even to be so far separated from the spirit of the world that we can put on the whole armor of God, and go forth in His name which is His power. Your Epistle of the 4th month last is precious to us, as evincing your earnest desires for our welfare and growth in the Truth; as well

at your encouragement for us to dwell in the sweetness of divine love which we know can only be attained through a full dedication of heart, and by a frequent renewal of our spiritual life, through the outpourings of God for the perfection of the work in us, which our beloved Saviour would be complete and perfect - even such as can bear the test of every trial, however severe to human nature though we should be stripped of much that we hold dear in this world.

The gracious God who loves his dear children would have us desire nothing more than to know and to do his blessed will, and that we seek only those things which please him.

We have the very acceptable company of dear friends our brethren from ministers of the gospel, who bring credentials from their respective meetings, and the gospel has been preached in the demonstration of the spirit and of power greatly to the comfort and help of our minds.

Pray for us, dear friends, that we may be kept, many of those who have separated from us are cast upon the barren mountains of pikora, where there is neither dew nor rain in our fields of offering. We see the small value of an empty profession whether one shod idea by the love of the world, or holding on to Quakerism in tradition only.

The spiritual building of the temple must rise of living stones, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God and precious.

We have received epistles from all the other yearly meetings with which we correspond, encouraging us to hold on our way in faithfulness to all that God requires of us, and we have felt exercises that our letter

you at this time might not be a mere formal response to yours, but a real evidence of a measure of life!

We are aware, dear friends that you have among you faithful laborers in the Master's vineyard — workmen who need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of Truth. Yet, dear young people there, we would say to you, Are you prepared to take it up and fight the Lord's battles with the same spiritual weapons which are kept bright and use in the army of the Lamb, acting under His direction? These faithful ones have often to go down again and again to the bottom of Jordan before being enabled to bring up living stones of Israel to the honor and praise of the King of kings.

We doubt not that some of you are being called into a high and holy calling, and as you abide with patience under the preparing hand of the great Husbandman, you will be enabled in due time to labor effectually in the vineyard of the Great Husbandman and bring forth precious fruit with which to feed or to hand forth to many thirsty souls.

May "the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory; to whom be glory forever and ever, Amen.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:

During our assembling in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, toward the summer's close, of Zion's holy walls, it is to be a tender people, gathered from works do we feel to labor for what blessing is given by the God of all our mercies in full assurance that the heavenly promise of our Saviour will be verified to all who "hold the beginning of their confidence steadfast unto the end." "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me on my throne, even as I also overcame and am set down with my Father on his throne."

At this time when there are many under our name who seem to be drifting away from the foundation upon which our Society was built, and into the current of worldliness and ease, it becomes all who have the welfare of our Israel at heart to be willing to gird on the whole armor of light that they may stand firm in the faith and heed the heavenly injunction:- "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." And to do this, part in keeping that better day when friends assembled will be again united as at the beginning.

More than fifty years ago a dear friend of our Yearly Meeting wrote:- "And the vision is yet for the appointed time, but at the end it shall speak and not lie. Though it tarry, wait for it, because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him, but the just shall live by his faith. Yea, also because he transgresseth by wine, he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people: Shall not all these take up a parable against him, and a taunting proverb against him, and say, Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his! how long? and to him that ladeth himself with thick clay! Because thou hast spoiled many nations, all the remnant shall spoil thee; because of men's blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein. Woe to him that coveteth an evil covetousness to his house, that he may set his nest on high, that he may be delivered from the power of evil! Thou hast consulted shame to thy house by cutting off many people, and hast sinned against thy soul. For the stone shall cry out of the wall, and the beam out of the timber shall answer it. Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and stablisheth a city by iniquity! Behold, is it not of the Lord of hosts that the people shall labor in the very fire, and the people shall weary themselves for very vanity? For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that puttest thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou may look on their nakedness! Thou art filled with shame for glory: drink thou also, and let thy foreskin be uncovered: the cup of the Lord's right hand shall be turned unto thee, and shameful spewing shall be on thy glory. For the violence done to Lebanon shall cover thee, and the spoil of beasts, which made them afraid, because of men's blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein. What profiteth the graven image that the maker thereof hath graven it; the molten image, and a teacher of lies, that the maker of his work trusteth therein, to make dumb idols? Woe unto him that saith to the wood, Awake; to the dumb stone, Arise, it shall teach! Behold, it is laid over with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all in the midst of it. But the Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him."

Dear Friends, we believe that the Lord is calling upon us to be a separate people, and that we are not to be conformed to the world in its spirit and practices. We believe that the Lord is calling upon us to be a peculiar people, zealous of good works. Do we feel to labor for what blessing is given by the God of all our mercies in full assurance that the heavenly promise of our Saviour will be verified to all who "hold the beginning of their confidence steadfast unto the end." "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me on my throne, even as I also overcame and am set down with my Father on his throne."

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Word to forth, saying, saith; while it is yet in his rate it up."

"In that day shall the Lord of Hosts be for a diadem of beauty and a crown of glory to the residue of his people and for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate, and many shall run to and fro, and the knowledge of the Lord shall be increased and [illegible] shall run down as waters and righteousness as a river — the wilderness shall blossom as Eden and the desert as the garden of the Lord; Aliens shall be thy [illegible] and strangers shall stand and feed the flocks, and nations that know not thee shall run unto thee because of the Lord thy God."

These are a few of the Lord's messages in our Israel, both ancient and latter, that a great [illegible] sifting time would take place among us, and that a mark of separation would betoken [illegible] and succeed. The former have been progressing, in a decline from [illegible] and doctrines, by the insidious work of the enemy drawing away from the true faith, both on the right hand and on the left. And it is believed that the day is near (if the Lord's purposes are not frustrated through fear or unfaithfulness in those who have been spared and called to begin the work) when the foregoing declaration of the prophets will be verified and fulfilled in the succession of faithful receivers and standard bearers and of a latter day work of the restoration and [illegible] of the Gospel

testimonies to the honor of God's great glorious and holy name."

Since the time which has elapsed since the making of the foregoing statements, it is probable that the branches of the Society have still been growing and the question arises in order to please God, "The fear of unfaithfulness of those who have been spared and called to begin the work" of the nations?

The harvest truly is plenteous but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth laborers into His harvest. Your faithful and devoted attendance at this time, with such precious meetings within the circle of our care proves what we already know, encouraging, uplifting and comforting.

We have had the privilege of several dear friends from other Yearly Meetings who were invited to speak in connection in the demonstration of the spirit and power, and we have felt the Lord thus to be full upon us, and under the preaching truth of Him who sent them bearing fruit unto the glory of God. "So shall he walk worthy as a man that pertaineth to the ministry of his friend."

Thus we can greet our brethren face to face, it is pleasant to receive these yearly fraternal greetings.

With the salutation of love we remain Your friends.

The New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly R.I. commencing with public meetings for worship on first day the tenth of Sixth mo. 1902, and on second day morning the eleventh, with those for discipline.

We have received accounts from Rhode Island and Dartmouth Quarterly Meetings reporting the following named Friends appointed to represent them in this Meeting.

From Rhode Island George Foster Amos O. Foster Chas. Perry Wm. H. Foster J. Handy Foster and George L. Foster From Dartmouth Jesse Tucker, Geo. H. Gifford, James H. Tucker and Wm. L. Gidley whose names being called they were present & took their seats.

Our beloved friend Eliza Tucker, who attended the sitting with acceptance from New Bedford, the Meeting of Ministers at West Grove Pa. the 4th. of 5th. mo. 1902 & the sitting thereof, her company and gospel labors have been acceptable to us and it is directed to sign & forward the minute of the Meeting & prepare

We have received and read at this time Epistles from Ohio, Iowa, Kansas, Canada Western Yearly Meetings, manifesting a living concern for the prosperity of the Truth, and information is informed to us in our visitation, we appoint to attend Jesse Tucker, Wm. L. Gidley, Geo Foster, J. Handy Foster, John H. Foster and James H. Tucker or as many as may open their way clear & Geo. L. Foster to prepare, & read epistles to & from this meeting.

John J. Willard and Geo. L. Foster are

appointed to superintend the election of officers this evening, this afternoon.

The report of Finance Committee was read and accepted and the Secretary directed to pay the bills as presented.

The reports of this meeting & minutes were read & approved, and it is ordered that the Friends to complete a meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing, the Women's Meeting concurring.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this meeting and report the name of a Friend to serve this meeting as Clerk and another as assistant Clerk and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the 4th. hour this afternoon.

The meeting met at the time adjourned to & was again assembled.

The names of the representatives, having been called, were present at our opening sitting.

Charles Perry on behalf of the representatives reported that the Friends of Green Plain Quarterly Meeting had appointed Thomas Foulke and Edward Hall for Assistant Clerks.

Their names being separately considered were united with, & they are appointed to those services respectively for the ensuing year.

The state of Society was interesting during the reading of the Queries and Answers thereto, and a Solemn Retirement, during which prayer was offered by the friend appointed for that service followed, after which it was also read, approved and directed to be recorded.

On account of the deficiencies respecting Births and Deaths brought under consideration, a concern was expressed that greater faithfulness in the attendance of our Mid-week Meetings and those for discipline and Encouragement might be manifested, for it was believed not fully understood and duly appreciated the benefit of faithfulness in this important duty. When once the mind is made up to attend these meetings a way is found beyond one's expectation, and the animating sense of Divine love felt in this silent waiting, is often felt to be a help in our spiritual aspirations between one Meeting and another. Let us manifest our allegiance to Almighty God, by having our daily devotions for a little time to wait upon him in Spirit and Truth. The benefit to ourselves and to our meetings of a spiritual union and communion one with another was adverted to as being the ground work of true love and unity. Friends were cautioned against allowing too large a proportion of their time in reading Newspapers and Periodicals, to the neglect of the history of our Society, and the biography of its faithful members in order to seek. Parents also cautioned against being too much influenced by the extravagant tendency of the age in our manner of living. Adjourned to the 3d hour 3d day afternoon

Third day afternoon the 12th. Met pursuant to adjournment.

The representatives being called they were present at former sitting.

The committee appointed at our first sitting to ~~dispose~~ distribute the epistles from other Yearly Meetings produced at this time and they were read and approved, and the clerk is directed to transcribe and forward to those Meetings respectively - viz. Ohio, Canada, Iowa Western and Kansas Yearly Meetings.

A letter addressed to this Meeting, in our dear friend Joseph Bevan of Western Yearly Meeting was read & ~~ordered~~ to our consideration & ~~disposal~~ disposal. It is concluded to print it in connection with the epistles from other Yearly Meetings

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the accounts of the Treasurer report the name of a friend to serve the Meeting another year, have performed the following, viz. We have examined the accounts of the Treasurer and find them correct, with vouchers duly receipted - and have balanced the accounts. The balance in the hands of the Treasurer is now $1,332 31/100. We unite in proposing the name of J. Barclay Foster for Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Walter Berry
James M. Foster
} Committee

Which is satisfactory to the meeting and J. Barclay is appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The Book and Tract Committee present the following report

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting

The committee have given some attention to the object of their appointment. An addition has been made to the Supply on hand through the Tract and Book and Trust Depositories in Philadelphia, the expense of the same being paid by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting. A considerable number of Tracts and Juvenile Books have been circulated in Wales by our Friends, and often thankfully received. Considerable Quantities have been mailed to individuals. One of the Committee reports having sent 2½ pounds of Tracts through the mail to individuals. Large orders have been sent to Public Institutions. Six 1000 pages of Tracts to Brooklyn N.Y. for use among Soldiers and Sailors. Six Pages to Ohio for the State Prison. 400 Pages to the State Prison at Charlestown Mass. 1200 Pages to the State Institution in R.I. 1800 Pages to be distributed in Virginia, and 500 Pages taken to the Stramington Town Farm. Some testimonials by individuals receiving & expressing much thankfulness for the Tracts received.

Per L. Foster on behalf of the Committee.

The report is satisfactory & the meeting and the same Friends are continued in that Service, and encouraged to pursue their valuable labors in that service.

The Clerk is directed to make and record a Minute from the minutes of this meeting, and sign them on its behalf.

In concluding the business of the meeting for this year - though our number is very small, we feel to acknowledge the condescending goodness of our dear Heavenly Father in granting the presence of His Spirit & comfort & instruction - since we have separate, private, & public meetings and institutions - feeling the uncertainty of our all meeting again, may we often be permitted to behold the individual presence of the Wonderful Counselor & Prince of Peace & humbly bow before His presence with adoring joy.

We now adjourn to meet at this place next year if consistent with the Divine will,

John J. Peters Clerk

The following minute was accidently omitted in recording. It should have been placed before the concluding minute.

It is concluded to print the minutes of this meeting, & the minutes of the Women's Meeting, and the Epistles from Other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting as well as those to the Women's Meeting.

The care of the printing and distribution of the same is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Summary of the Answers to the Queries!

Answer first. All of our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held. The first day Meetings pretty well attended. Preparative Meetings and those for discipline are much neglected.

The Query is not as well observed as we could be desirable - too little appearance of plainness & other unbecoming behavior & dress!

Ans. 2 We think love and unity are maintained and detraction guarded against - no differences have come to our knowledge.

Ans. 3 We believe Friends are desirous and use some care to bring up their families in plainness of speech behaviour and apparel and to guard them against frequent reading and corrupt conversation. Some Friends are templars here in themselves, and we think the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in their families.

Ans. 4. Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors for medicine, except in cases of sickness or exception. The frequenting of taverns and places of public resort are carefully regarded & observed with the occasional exceptions.

Ans. 5th The circumstances of those requiring assistance is attended to. The children placed from among Friends.

4.a
1st Parents and heads of families ministers & others concerned present, with respect to Marriage &c. Inclined to our discipline in that respect, and mind they do not advance any further therein.

Ans. 2d Friends maintain our testimonies against a hireling ministry, & find a concern upon our members, after due labour, to bear a testimony, provide for one according as they are disciplined in the truth.

They also maintain our testimonies with respect to the several matters referred to in this query.

Ans. 3d We think Friends should inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, & so, that they are punctual to their promises, both in the payments of their debts and strive to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 4th Our records are pretty well attended to by removals with certificates & see our last account, except that one Friends meeting reports one Friend to have withdrawn himself of any meeting in this verge of ours.

Ans. 5th Friends feel a concern to deal with offenders as directed & some, in some measure, therein is effected, & much, but to our sincere grief, is not.

To this Yearly Meeting of Friends
dear Friends

Love we again assemble, we feel to acknowledge that in a measure of Divine favor and love for we are again enabled to meet, we trust in his name, which is his power, and which is "like ointment poured forth" to those prepared to esteem the sweetness thereof. Your acceptable epistle of 9th. Month last has been received by us, and we trust may stimulate to faithfulness, that we may leave the things which are behind and press forward towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Our hearts are tendered this year to mingle with the removal of dear faithful Friends, who have, we trust, entered upon their everlasting rewards; and we feel that those who remain have great need to double our diligence to make our calling and election sure, and take heed to the declaration, "not by might nor by power, but by my spirit saith the Lord."

Epistles have also been received at this time from the other Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, giving us an account of the prosperity attending a living concern for the welfare of Zion.

Since we were last gathered here in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting we have mourned for the loss by death among us, while we gratefully acknowledge the favor of the Lord, in the extension of his love and mercy, to preserve us from open sin, we desire to keep them in the hour of temptation, if they give heed thereunto. And when they become weary with sorrow, we desire that they may know help laid upon One who is mighty to save, even Jesus Christ the Lord, in whom

[illegible] I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly of heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Invitation to us like the wise men who followed the star of Bethlehem till they came to the place where Jesus was, and heard the welcome message in "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, and good will to men."

Deep-loving people, the story which guided the wise men to Christ is shining just as bright today as it ever did, and is calling us with a voice as clear and musical as when it was heard on the plains of Bethlehem. When they will hear the same language that was proclaimed in the nine men.

Good medical it is at the present time, when the spirit of unfaithfulness seems to be gaining ground in the world, for all who love the Lord to remember his teachings, that the enemy becomes strong in his power and the latter that better day when, "Nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

We have with us this time a few friends from another Conference, which has been a comfort, and words of encouragement, while they labor to us to remain steadfast in the truth. May their labors of love, while with us, be like seed sown in good ground, that shall bring forth fruit to the praising of the Great Redeemer's name.

Our business has been pressing in many, and the Council Sittings were felt to be seasons of divine favor.

As we all live in the fear of the Lord, we can still answer that "The Son of Righteousness will arise with healing in his wings." And Emmaus

to prompt an answer to the call.

We are glad to receive from you this year tidings of your visit to Canada by Elias who called this Church by name, and left with them forth. We remain your friends and live for peace in the Lord.

To Dear Friends Meeting of Friends
Dear Friends

Our distant friends have again been brought afresh to our minds, by the reading of the epistles which we have at this time received from them; and although, selves unworthy, a desire arises in our hearts to again salute you in that love which crowns your profession, living and entreating that neither height nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate them from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

It is encouraging to find evidence in the lives of our dear friends, that they are reading, writing, and thinking for themselves, and that they may be as scattered remnants, to whom the testimonies of our Society are yet dear; and who cling to the belief that "Truth and love can no more be separated than the mind and the body."

Dear friends desirous that our distinguishing principles should be upheld in their purity, in our own practice and conduct, and also in the support of our meetings for discipline, we feel it to be our duty to encourage a diligent attendance of this Divine Master.

Dear Friends - We desire your encouragement in well doing; be not overcome by the love of

the world over lay its friendships. The world is
in need of this spirit and this is what
"If we were of the world, the world would love its
own, but because we are not of the world but I have
chosen you out of the world therefore the world
hateth you." And again he says:- "If we can-
not live together here we will love the
same Father, or else we will have to
live apart and see Him."

Prayer and watchfulness are necessary
on our part if we desire to keep ourselves unspotted
from the world. Yet this is one of the distinguish-
ing marks of true and pure heart prayer and
makes religion to be an abiding Place. That
religion which Christ compared to a pearl
of great price which man would forsake
all that he had and bought it.
Showing that its possessions were of more importance
than all else besides.

We feel that the practice of thus addressing
tokens of love and remembrance to our absent
brethren & sisters of the Church upon the reminding
them that their welfare and growth in the
Faith is desired by their distant brethren has a
tendency to bind us together in the bonds of
Christian fellowship and to awaken in the
hearts of all an increased confidence in
each other which tends to promote the unity
of the spirit in the bonds of peace. This is
the one spirit which it is desirable to be kept
and to continue, and it should be a marked
characteristic in the lives of the followers of it.
"He taught to bring peace on earth and good
will to men." He prayed and pleaded
& his spirit, desiring that all should be one
as he & the Father were one. He prayed
to the Father as he stretched forth before them
and led them as a shepherd leads his
flock. How beautifully this unity is expressed
by the Royal Psalmist:- "Behold how good and

how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, and went down to the skirts of his garments."

We have at this time a few brethren with us from a neighboring Yearly Meeting, whose company, besides the satisfaction and profit we derive from their religious labors, and social and friendly intercourse with us, we believe that the Master has sent them to us, as he sent forth his disciples of old, two and two, to go before his face into every city and place whither he himself would come. And we desire that they may be encouraged to hold on, persevering in the faithful performance of every duty which is laid upon them, be it ever so humbling to the natural will, be it ever so trying to the natural feelings, be it ever so opposed by the enemy of all good, lest they should faint and be discouraged in their minds, and thereby hinder the good work.

We do not believe that the Ministers in the Society of Friends were ever intended to be a distinct order of men, seeking their own ease, and preferring to be employed in the lighter services of the church, such as preaching the doctrines of the Spirituality of the Gospel dispensation, to the neglect of the more arduous duties of the gospel ministry. The discoveries of divine truth and improvements in practical religion, from our worldly business, study of the scriptures and of our own life are multiplex

as we strive to walk by the light of the Lamb
of God, it leads into and makes it the
way that leadeth unto life" and again we are
told to take up the cross and follow Him
With the salutation of love we remain
Your friends

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends.
Dear Friends

As we assemble in
our Yearly Meeting we feel it to be
according to the usage of the Church
of Christ in all ages of the world
especially at this time to exercise and cherish
the remembrance and kindly
greeting, coming down from those of the
Lord's heritage who have been called
of God to bear testimony to the truth
as it is in Jesus, and to suffer
persecution for righteousness sake.
We feel drawn to address you in the
language of the Apostle Paul to the Hebrews
"Ye are not come unto the mount that might
be touched and that burned with fire nor unto
blackness and darkness and tempest" but
"Ye are come unto Mount Sion and unto the
city of the living God the heavenly
Jerusalem and to an innumerable company
of angels to the general assembly and church
of the first born which are written in heaven
and to God the judge of all and to the spirits
of just men made perfect and to Jesus the
mediator of the new covenant and to the
blood of sprinkling that speaketh better
things than that of Abel" And may we
be returning to our first love and those
impressions which we have received from
time to time, especially by way of doctrine and

To the Members of the Society of Friends

Dear Friends!

Having again assembled in our usual gathering, our thoughts turned towards that well-spring of which we believe it to be our privilege and duty often to drink, and the language of our hearts is that we, as well as many who have preceded us in the path of life, may know and believe with a perfect heart and a willing mind to put on all the beautiful garments of our Redeemer.

We have received the Epistle of 1877, and have been comforted in the love which it breathes; and while we are bowed in reverent adoration before the Lord, we desire to offer up our tribute of thanksgiving and praise for our preservation.

Our first object is that all who claim the name of Friends may strive for an increase of the original soundness of our principles, and put away all imaginations, reasonings and traditions; and that they may know by a living faith, and a clear view within the veil of flesh, which hides us from the unseen world, and connects us with the Church in heaven, and overcome, establish it upon the true foundation, even the foundation of Christ the Lord.

The greatest of all the Old Testament prophets declared, "This commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that thou should say, Who shall go up for us to heaven and bring it unto us, that we may hear it and do it? But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth and in thy heart, that thou may do it." This is the

word of faith, which we preach; that if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" Rom. 10:8-15.

Here is the whole matter in a nutshell. Here is the whole plan of salvation. Here is the whole duty of man. Here is the whole work of the Christian. Here is the whole secret of success in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of power in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of victory in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of joy in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of peace in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of rest in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of growth in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of fruitfulness in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of usefulness in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of satisfaction in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of everything that is worth while in the Christian life. Here is the whole secret of everything that is worth while in life. Here is the whole secret of everything that is worth while in time and in eternity. Here is the whole secret of everything that is worth while in time and in eternity for you and for me and for everybody.

Here is the whole secret of everything that is worth while in time and in eternity for you and for me and for everybody, and yet how few there are who know it! How few there are who believe it! How few there are who practise it! How few there are who live it! How few there are who preach it! How few there are who teach it! How few there are who are willing to stake their all upon it! How few there are who are willing to stake their all upon it and to live and to die by it!

Here is the whole secret of everything that is worth while in time and in eternity for you and for me and for everybody, and yet how few there are who know it! How few there are who believe it! How few there are who practise it! How few there are who live it! How few there are who preach it! How few there are who teach it! How few there are who are willing to stake their all upon it! How few there are who are willing to stake their all upon it and to live and to die by it!

[illegible] with [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends.

We are glad to acknowledge the reception of your excellent Epistle of last year, introducing us as it did into a fresh sense of that love and gospel fellowship of which neither time nor distance can deprive us. We desire to encourage you after having done your whole duty, to dismiss depressing doubts and discouraging fears from your minds, remembering that God is sufficient for his own work, and, that he never fails to the meeting seed of Jacob "peace upon peace" in return.

We have, however to yield ourselves completely in obedience to his will, if we would contend in truth and verity for his own dear children. How much sorrow would be avoided and how much peace and joy reach to ourselves if we duly followed our perfect pattern.

We sympathize with you in your solitary meetings and remember them, and we feel that when far from Friends' meetings that we communicate, it is better to sit down with you for worship and wait upon the Lord in silence than to attend other places of worship. There are often cases in which such path is dictated. Our dear friend Ashbel Wood related an instance of a Friend in England (or Scotland), living in a city where was the only Friend; feeling at times tired of sitting alone in silence, and after a consideration to see another person joined him, and still another, until a good sized Friends' meeting was established. We are always encouraged to hear from our dear friends, to be faithful in duty!

In your letter to us you allude to the faithful standard bearers who have been called from work to reward, and, that during so many years of the world's dominations, so few are left. You truly say that it is not for the lack of the Lord's gracious care and long suffering kindness towards you. We feel as we read these remarks that the full application. Many of the fathers and brothers in our Israel have been called to their glorious rewards, and their warfare in the church militant are not all filled.

We are fully persuaded that the harvest is plenteous, while the faithful laborers are few. Dear are we called these things in the vision of light, and prayer are begotten in our hearts to the Great Husbandman that He would send forth more laborers into His harvest, will He not hear and grant our petitions? We read that the fervent effectual prayer of the righteous availeth much, and wonderful instances illustrating this are recorded in the Holy Scriptures. We desire that you with your brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, putting on the whole armor of God, and fighting valiantly with spiritual weapons for the heritage of our fathers, and that we may be like them faithful to our God.

Some of us felt deeply the removal of that dear sister Whitney and mother; Sarah Louisa Richards, whose life has been one of constant devotion to the cause of truth in every [illegible] and [illegible] some of the last words she spoke to us were, "Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, lay down your armor, we desire to encourage the determination of people to dwell more

the [illegible] hand of God that the
[illegible] might [illegible] his
blessing in turning many from darkness
to light and from the power of Satan unto
God. Surely the blessed cause of
truth promises great rewards to its labor-
-ers. "It is dignified with immortality
and crowned with eternal life."

Dear Friends we sympathize with you in
all your trials, not feeling to upbraid
you, but to encourage you to "stand fast
in the liberty wherewith Christ hath
made you free."

We have received and
read at this time Epistles from all the
Yearly Meetings with which we correspond,
confirming us in the belief that our
correspondence is in accordance with the
will of the Great I Am, and that He delights
to bless these expressions of unity and
fellowship for each other; and that as we
seek for ability to move under the blessed
influence and constraining love of the gospel
of our Lord Jesus Christ, these letters will
continue to bind us together in strong fellow-
-ship, and help us to declare the whole
counsel of God.

The present disturbed
and warlike attitude of the world makes
it the more important for us as a people
to live very close to our good Guide, wait-
-ing for and obeying the clear manifes-
-tations of Truth in our hearts. The vis-
-ion of the Society of Friends is not ful-
-filled as long as so much exists in the
professed Christian church contrary to
the pure and peaceable principles of
the Gospel as taught and exemplified

by the blessed Saviour.

I have a brief sketch of the trials which have fallen to your lot, and the apparent discouraging circumstances connected with your work; but we would encourage you to hold fast to the anchor of faith without wavering. The cause is the Lord's, and "He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." Though your numbers are few and your means small; yet none of these things should move us, or cause us to turn back because of the cross and to move with our ears unbiased but move right on and glorify God and Saviour.

Let us remember His agony in the garden of Gethsemane when about to offer up himself as a propitiation for the sins of all mankind. Behold His sweet submission, as He prayed: "O, my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless not as I will but as thou wilt."

In conclusion, we commend you to the care and keeping of Israel's Unslumbering Shepherd, and remain yours in

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting

John H. Potter Clerk

At our [illegible] meeting of Rich for [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and
[illegible] [illegible] it appears
that the following [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Geo. Foster
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Baltimore Yearly Meeting
[illegible] Friends
[illegible] Thos.
[illegible] Conference and Ministers
[illegible] Committee to visit
[illegible] Southern States
[illegible] Friends.

Our worthy & Esteemed Friend attended this meeting with a minute from her own Monthly meeting of Friends [illegible] 1901. Endorsed in Minute Our dear friend [illegible] Minister in this meeting, has been comforting to us.

Also our dear friend Hannah B. Test with a certificate from Friends of Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Whittier 2nd month 22nd 1901. liberating her to attend this Year. M. and for such other service among us as may open for and is blessed of the Lord, the unity of this meeting with them - Endorsed as a Minute of this meeting held 10th of 5th mo 1901.

Also our dear friend Abigail B. Hoyt with a minute from Spring Field Monthly Meeting of Friends approving of her concern to accompany Hannah B. Test in her religious visit as set forth in her minute, stating she is an Elder in good standing

We have also in attendance our dear friend Anna B. Crawford with a minute from Friends of Philada for the Eastern District liberating her to visit in the line of the gospel this Meeting -

The company and gospel

labors of all the named friends named in the foregoing minutes, are heartily accepted, encouraging, and comforting to us, and the Clerk is directed to give certificates as Women Meeting may prepare, setting forth the same on behalf of this Meeting.

Epistles have received and read at this time accepted as from Ohio, Canada, Western Kansas and Iowa Yearly Meetings, which bear evidence of a living Gospel concern on our behalf, affording much encouragement and comfort to our minds, and we desire our friends Isaac Wicker, Wm. Liddle, Wm. D. Foster, Chas. Perry and James H. Wicker to prepare answers thereto for the approval of this Meeting, and produce at a future sitting of this Meeting.

George C. Foster and John F. Hilbert are appointed to prepare a summary of the Minutes of this Meeting and report at the setting this afternoon.

Epistles

Appointed Amos C. Foster and James H. Wicker to examine and settle the Treasurer's account and to fill the name of a friend for Treasurer, they are also requested to report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The Representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve this Meeting as Clerk and another for Assistant reporting to the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

Afternoon met pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the Delegates being called they were present.

Charles Terry on behalf of the Representatives elected reported that they had met and united in preferring Dr. W. Foster for Clerk and Dr. S. Eddy for Auditor &c. &c. whereupon the names of the said Gentlemen were declared and proposed and they are appointed to those services respectively for the year ensuing.

The Queries were read at this time with answers thereto from Pond Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings, and a Summary thereof having been prepared, the same was ordered to be recorded, read and directed to be recorded.

While considering the State of Society as shown by the Queries & Answers, the mind is most forcibly impressed with a concern for the maintenance of a lively exercise as to the things of Religion; and an earnest desire was felt and expressed that a diligence & zeal in attending all the tithes into the Lord's storehouse and performing them with cheerfulness, and a willingness to labor in the Lord's vineyard, as way may open, might be manifested by the attendance of all our Members.

In reading the Epistles from other Yearly Meetings, the Queries & Epistles in succession, the solemn & attentive reverent silence was strongly adverted to, as helpful in all our religious exercises.

The importance of seeking first the Kingdom of Heaven and its righteousness was also impressed with much weight.

Parents were desired to be careful of the literature which enters their homes, and to be watchful over their children in all respects

The exercise and travail of soul shown from the dear friends from abroad in their lively vocal messages to us, will not be forgotten or lost.

Records for the Meetings for Sufferings were read at this time, and approved, a Minute having been made to reappoint the same Friends, with the exception of our dear friend J. Barclay Foster (deceased) & associated with, and Thos. A. Pointed to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings another year, the Women's Meeting concurring.

Adjourned to the 3rd hour third day the 18th.

Third day afternoon, near the hour of adjournment Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives were called this afternoon.

Epistles were produced, and read at this time to Canada, Iowa, Western, Ohio, and Kansas Yearly Meetings, and approved at this Meeting. The Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to those Meetings respectively.

The Committee appointed at our first Session to examine and settle the Treasurer's account & propose a Friend for Treasurer, reported that the said Books have been carefully kept, and the proper vouchers filed and that they are united in proposing the name of Geo. C. Foster for Treasurer. Which is satisfactory to the Meeting.

and ~~is~~ appointed to that station for the ensuing year.

The Book and Tract Committee have made the following Report.

Report,

"The Committee have given some attention to the circulation of our Books and Tracts, and a good number have been distributed in each Quarterly Meeting; having sufficient on hand, none have been purchased during the past year. The exact number circulated is not known, but 1.600 pages have been sent by mail. Some were sent to charitable institutions in Europe, and some to the West as mission ground; the number not known. More Tracts have been called for than last year, and less expression of thanks received, some have seemed grateful for them, whilst it appeared that they were thrown carelessly upon the waters."

Geo. C. Taber on behalf of the Committee.

Which is a comfort and satisfaction to the Meeting; the same Friends are continued in that service another year and encouraged to procure and distribute such Books and Tracts, as seem calculated to promote the Cause of Truth; and they are allowed to draw on the Treasurer of this Meeting for the expenses thereby incurred.

This included to reprint the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting of the "Friends and Women's" also the Epistles of other Yearly Meetings. The care of printing and distributing is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes

of this Meeting and sentiments
of behalf.

The business claiming our attention has been conducted in much harmony, and in now separating to return to our respective homes and small Meetings, we feelingly acknowledge, with and unworthy as we are, that our hearts have been comforted in the fresh manifestations of Divine regard in constraining several Ministers of the gospel and other dear friends from different parts of the heritage to be with us & company, and also in the precious sense of the heavenly feeling so often covering the Meeting. Under a sense of the same and of the uncertainty of our all meeting again we conclude purposing to meet at this place next year if consistent with the Divine will.

Signed by Jesse Kersey Clerk
& Myra[illegible] Esther

Summary of Answers to Queries

Ans. 1st All of our Meetings for worship & discipline have been held. The Meetings on first days have been attended by most of our Members. Meetings for business and others in the middle of the week have been much neglected by some friends. The hour of Meeting not as well observed as could be desired. Friends appear pretty clear of keeping out of unnecessary company. Another recommendation and renewed.

Ans. 2nd Love and unity well kept and maintained

and detraction guarded against. To
diligence apparent.

Ans. 3rd " We believe Friends are concerned, and use
some care & diligence under their care in
plainness of Speech, deportment, and apparel;
also to guard against pernicious reading and
corrupt conversation. some Friends are exemplary
herein themselves, and we think the Holy Scriptures
are often read in their families.

Ans 4th " It is possible one exception, Friends are care-
ful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors
except for medicine. We are aware of the
unnecessary frequenting of taverns, and places
of public resort, and we desire it may be
one of the occasions noticed in the Query.

Ans. 5th " The circumstances of the Query are attended
to. Incontinency discouraged from among Friends.

Ans. 6th " We Friends are concerned that all proceedings
with respect to marriage be conformable to
discipline; that the young and unmarried
do not engage precipitately therein.

Ans 7th " Friends maintain their testimonies against
a paid ministry, & frequently find Members
attend Meetings at times when such ministry
arises. They appear also to maintain our
testimonies regarding the several other
matters alluded to in this Query.

Ans. 8th " We think Friends are most to be careful to
inspect their affairs and settle their accounts,
and we trust they are punctual to their promises,
just in their debts, and endeavor to live within
the bounds of their circumstances.

Mo. 9th Our records are attended to. 10 removals
& 1 birth certificates since our last account.

Mo. 10th Care has rested with Friends to deal with
offenders, when it appeared necessary,
and to pass judgment according to
discipline, but more attention and
timely care is needed.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:

We are again met in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, we have been refreshed and strengthened in the reading of the Epistles from the Yearly Meetings with whom we correspond. Among the number was one from yours breathing the spirit of peace on earth good will to man. A spirit that seems but much lost sight of in the struggle of the great nations of the earth, for the applause of man the acquisition of territory, and the extension of trade, bringing in its train desolation and death, with all the other horrors of war. Well may it be said of them, they know not what spirit they are of.

Although the spirit of war seems so prevalent in the earth yet we are hopeful that the day is not far distant when those that are for peace shall become such a multitude, as to make war an abomination, not to be trained among the

meeting. Our meetings have been mild under a sense of the overshadowing presence of the Great Head of the Church, without whom we can do nothing.

The reading of the Queries brought a deep concern over the meeting for the strengthening of those who are weak in the faith and ready to sit down in the dust, and to send their money for bread which is not bread and their labor for that which satisfieth not. That we are made willing to heed the admonition. "Bring all your tithes into my storehouse and prove me now herewith saith the Lord and see if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour out such a blessing that there shall not be room to receive it" for He is unchanged concerning his promises as when he gave them, and will do for them that fear and obey him more than we can ask or think. He knows our needs better than we and will withhold no good thing from his children. He will send his gentle showers to refresh the tender shade and his sun in due season to nourish the growing plant that it may bring forth its fruit to make glad the heritage of God.

Many encouraging words were expressed in our hearing, that we be not discouraged and lay the armor down because of the fewness of numbers) kind to cause us to hold fast that which we have in the end. It was felt to be a favor and strength to us together that so many dear friends from several other Yearly Meetings (that of many Ministers of the Gospel) have given us their company and counsel.

The streams of Gospel love have flowed freely to the softening of many hearts. O, how

helpful and encouraging are such visits made under the constraining love of the blessed Savior, to the true anointed servants and hand maidens of the most High.

The baptizing power accompanying such preaching contrites the heart and begets fresh desires for a more full dedication of our whole souls to the cause which is dignified with immortality and crowned with Eternal life.

Dear friends we feel to encourage you to live more loosed from the things of this world. Our continuance is so uncertain and brief, that we should constantly keep in mind the Heavenly Country.

And O, how much more enjoyment is afforded us even in this life, if we feel the approval of the Great I AM.

Our hearts are enlarged towards you we believe in Gospel love we commend you to God and the word of his grace which is able to build you up, and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Give a further relation of love for we remain your friends.

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends:

We have received and read your Epistle of Gospel love to the edification of our minds, and to the uplifting of our spiritual life.

A larger number of Friends are with us from other Yearly Meet-

as it is time than ever before, know of their presence, and the Spirit of the Lord have greatly strengthened us. The Lord has been merciful, and has poured out a rich blessing upon his unworthy children so that we marvel at His goodness, and are ready to say, "What is man that thou art mindful of him and the Son of man that thou visitest him"?

We are weak indeed, but He is strong and able to save. For was it not said, "Be strong, fear not! Behold your God will come with a recompense! He will come and save you."

The messages which come to us from other churches unite us into close fellowship with them, and we are emboldened to unburden the secrets of the heart and speak of those matters which otherwise we would hide from public view.

Your letter with the promotion of Sabbath Schools is helpful to the Church as a whole, and to the individuals there of.

We have nothing dearer to our desire than to find each soul continuing in prayer — for we could wish that all professing the name of Friends should not be a reproach, but as standard bearers to the people, letting their light shine at all times! For was it not said, and "He shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light and thy judgment as the noonday", for ye see "your calling brethren how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called."

It is not to be too much cast down but strive together with one mind and one heart to build up the house of the Lord; having faith, doubting nothing, seeking righteousness,

constant in good work's. Much is required at our hands this day. May we be preserved to keep our eye single our hearts open to receive the gifts of His Spirit, and to follow its teaching.

With a love freighted with the best desires for your Spiritual and temporal welfare we remain your friends and brethren.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends:

Dear Friends:

When your epistle was read in our Meeting, together with those from other Yearly Meetings, with whom we correspond we were made to rejoice for the consolation brought unto us in these messages of love and good will.

The canopy of Gods love seemed to overshadow us, during the different sittings of the Yearly Meeting, and we enabled to transact the business coming before us in much harmony.

Quite a large number of dear friends from the different parts of the Lords heritage are with us, Ministers Elders, and others, several from your Yearly Mt.

Their company and labors of love were comforting and encouraging. We were enabled to discern that Gospel truth is both new and old, and were exhorted to greater faithfulness as individual members of the Church militant; which we earnestly crave may be the case. And may we be

visitors returned to their several homes bearing their sheaves with them and the visited treasure up in a kind and honest hearts that would bring forth much fruit to the glory of God, and many would be constrained to come before Him, and render thanksgiving and praise for his many blessings bestowed.

It was very glad to hear so good a report from the younger ministers in connection and great was the exercise that continue faithful in following that "true light" that is to the man that cometh into the world; for in the end they shall reap if they faint not. Christ is the alone preacher to bring men to him, who teaches as never man taught, and who is able to lead us out of darkness into his marvelous light, than to depend on the wisdom of man for a clearer understanding of the record concerning the hidden things of God and thus letting in a doubting spirit, and be carried away with the dissimulation of the higher criticisms of the Bible as has been the case abroad with some under our name.

Let us remember rather the words of our Savior, at time when he had been to carry forward his work in the earth. "Ye shall receive power when the Holy Ghost shall come upon you." And this existed so that a short time after these words were spoken he was full of faith and power did great wonders and miracles among the people, and Peter likewise, a humble fisherman having that divine anointing which produces the proper power, needed not the wisdom of man to enable him to proclaim to the world how all men might be partakers of the Divine nature.

— ers, and did unite in sundry exercises to know what was necessary to do in order that we be neither barren or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"All who have this understanding will know, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that bringeth the good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth."

Nothing save the Knowledge of God that comes by Divine revelation will satisfy the hungering and thirsting soul. "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent."

When the answers to the queries were read, among our short comings, much pertinent counsel was given by concerned friends, that we be more vigilant upon the gate of our mouth, and frequently were we reminded of our duty, in the attendance of all our meetings — both for worship and discipline, and not let anything pertaining to our business affairs, stand in the way of so doing.

We fully accord with the judgment before expressed by the Society of Friends, as it moves in unison upon every person claiming our name, for a living witness in the cause of the promulgation of peace and good will among men, from how, when the spirit of war seems to be on the increase in our land.

With a salutation of love we remain your friends, —

To Kansas Yearly Mt. of Friends.

Dear Friends:

Again has our Yearly (four in number) been gathered in much weakness and fear; and we, like Israel unencumbered, the Shepherd has not been unmindful of us. At times, more or less, a precious sense of Divine favor has been extended to us, and we have felt that the Lord was right in the midst of us, and that as we put forth and go before, He will open the way before us, and prepare us for the work assigned.

We were favored to witness His disciples, on the mount of ascension, receive from Him the command to "go into all nations, to preach the gospel to every creature," as He had commanded them; and added, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." We have at times permitted to feel and enjoy a little of His life giving presence, and to "see eye to eye" though we may not behold the light of His countenance from us for a season, yet when we are taught to "wait the dawning, and the shadows flee away," we will in His own good time return to cheer us, to revive our drooping spirits and to revive the hearts of the contrite ones".

Our epistles to others have been read and received to our satisfaction and it is encouraging to note that there is an increased interest in the welfare and prosperity of our beloved Society. We have received letters from those who profess to believe that the Discipline which our Society has ever held dear, is worthy of support and defense, and under its tenets made ample provision for the interests of spiritual Christianity, for upholding

dwelt, the big promises, on which we have been
ministered; and the formal acceptance
of the principles, that a sincere desire and
endeavor is a full and sufficient warrant
to engage in the Masters work and for the ad-
vancement of his Kingdom on the earth.

Christ said to his disciples "Without me ye
can do nothing". "In vain they do worship me"
"Without faith it is impossible to please him"
fundamental truths that Christ as
our immediate leader the will meant and all
unfeigned efforts to exercise in us of our own will
and wisdom must be held in subjection to
his requirements. "To what purpose is the
multitude of your sacrifices unto me, saith
the Lord" was the inquiry addressed to
Israel to those who sought to propitiate
and offended God in offerings not acceptable
to Him". And again "when ye come to appear
before me, who hath required this at your
hands to tread my courts".

We desire that we
with ourselves may be found willing to wait
at wisdom's gate to learn and to know what is
the Masters will concerning us; and when it
is discerned in the secret of our hearts that
strength may be given us to make in faith
and full purpose of heart the offering called
for at our hands, trusting that as our days
so shall our strength be.

Our hearts have
gone out at this time in love towards the youth
and younger members of our meeting desiring
that they may be preserved from yielding to
the temptations, which so often lie in the
pathway of such, thus guarding and keep-
ing them from the vanities and follies
abounding in the world which are spread
as a net to entrap the feet of the unwary.

that there is a willingness to consecrate their means and talents to the service of their Divine Master; for it is declared that, "those that seek me early shall find me."

Do not be discouraged or dismayed though the cross stands in your way, but rather endeavor to take it up and bear it for the sake of your Savior, for as the prophet declared "it is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth." In thus submitting to the cross of Christ, you will be prepared when in the course of nature the fathers are no more, to take up the burden that shall fall from their shoulders, and fill their places in the Church militant.

It is our desire dear friends that you with us may in our several allotments endeavor to "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" not letting the hindering things of this world interfere with our progress forward endeavoring to keep "our conscience void of offence toward God and toward men; for if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart and knoweth all things – but if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God, and whatsoever we ask we receive of him, because we keep his commandments."

There is much need that in our intercourse with the world that we should ever be on the watch, and endeavor to fulfil the injunction of Christ. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

We have at this time with us several friends from other Quarterly Meetings whose company is pleasant and encouraging to us, and it is our desire that their labors of love

anxieties, may bring peace to their own minds and be it ours as words of life & spirit to arouse the lukewarm and careless ones, & to cause & lead diligence in them a renewed sense of the duty they owe to their Heavenly Father, to the Society of which they are members, and to the world around them.

With a salutation of love we remain your friends.

To Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends; —

Dear Friends:

Your kind and encouraging Epistle of last year has been read to our comfort and edification, and while we do not feel in our tribulated condition equal to the arduous and weighty duty of epistolary correspondence, we can do no less than gratefully acknowledge your loving admonitions, and ask for your continued interest in our behalf in this our day of great weakness and sorrow. One after another of our dear friends have been permitted a release from their labors, and to enter upon their Eternal Reward. While we rejoice on their account, it brings forcibly to our minds the words of the Prophet Zechariah "Your fathers where are they, and the Prophets do they live forever?" And the Prophet Amos speaking in the Lord God said, "Surely the Lord will do nothing but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the Prophets, the lion hath roared who will not fear, the Lord God hath spoken who can but prophesy?!" And yet dear friends we have come to feel that our Heavenly Father in compassion and loving kindness has been pleased to remember us, in sending many of his dear servants and hand-maidens to bear us company

and to preach the everlasting Gospel of our Lord Jesus, Christ to the revival and encouragement of our tried souls.

Our duties have us been encouraged to renew and increase our dedication of heart to the glorious cause of Truth and Righteousness in the Earth. To make a full surrender of our all unto Him who is infinite in strength, and who never said "Seek ye my face in vain."

Our sincere and grateful acknowledgments are due to the Divine Source of all good for the many tokens of His loving kindness and tender mercies which have been extended to us. In our favor we have received invisible help, and we crave that the strength thus given may be continued, and increased, that we may become strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, and make use of spiritual weapons to fight valiantly for the inheritance of our fathers.

The cause of the decline and weakness in our religious society is with the withholding of Divine Grace of the Great I Am, and the encumbrance of the spirit of the world over our hearts, planting us in carnal mindedness and worldliness and forbidding Christ who permit the light of His Truth to rule and reign in their hearts.

The constant reminding which we have of the great uncertainty of human life should be an

incentive to prayerful seek for heavenly wisdom, to enable us to live so near the blessed truth, that our daily work may keep pace with the day. The experiences of our own life, and that of all ages must convince us that the accumulation of worldly treasures, or the gratification of sensual desires cannot give us true happiness.

As all the Epistles from the dear Meetings with which we correspond, were read the meeting was brought under feelings of tenderness and gratitude for the privilege we enjoy annually in these letters of fraternal greeting, manifesting as they do the brotherly love and kindly concern felt for each other, as well as the whole household of faith.

It would be pleasant to us to hear that the dear friends of Hickory Grove Quarterly Meeting, now remaining to Iowa Yearly Meeting were joined to your Meeting. We feel that the step might prove a mutual benefit, and encouragement to all friends in Iowa, and if done in the right spirit under the constraining love of Christ would strengthen you as a people and exert a better influence among those not of our Society.

May the Great Shepherd of Israel lead you forth in His own way, and then you will in sincerity become sheep of his pasture, and the tender lambs of the fold will grow and thrive in all things pertaining to their present and everlasting happiness.

It is our desire in faithfulness in all that our Omniscient Father requires of us, that the Church will come out of its wilderness state leaning upon her beloved

fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners."

Dear unto friends we entreat you do not feel that you have no portion in this great work.

The Lord desireth our sacrifice. One mild & great & benefitted & reading the history and biography of the Early Friends, and thus to learn the faithfulness of three very young men in their teens) turned many from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God. They were required to suffer imprisonment and death rather than abandon the precious cause of truth as they saw it. But all faithful were constrained to endure the Cross and despise the shame looking unto Jesus the Author and finisher of our faith.

Consider Him who endured such contradiction of sinners against himself lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. He is the way the truth and the life, and to you who are faithful will say, "My peace I leave with you my peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth, give I unto you."

In conclusion we must tenderly and affectionately commend you to God and the Word of His grace which is able to build you up, and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified and remain my friends and brethren.

John W. Foster Clerk
and his last
Epistle or letter 6 Mo-1901

At the Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held at Westerly, Rhode Island, commencing with public meetings for worship on First-day the 15th of the Sixth Month 1902 and on Second-day the 16th with those for Discipline.

Our dear friend, John W. Foster, former clerk of this meeting, having deceased, Charles Perry, clerk of the meeting for Sufferings is acting as clerk during the present sitting, according to the requirements of our Discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this meeting: viz:— From Rhode Island, Amos O. Foster, George C. Foster, Charles Perry, George Foster, and Simeon F. Perry. From Sandwich, John T. Wilbur, Job S. Gidley, Henry T. Gidley, George H. Gifford and James H. Tucker whose names being called they were all present except one.

Our dear friend, Henry J. Outland attended this Meeting with a minute from Rich Square Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Cedar Grove, Northampton County North Carolina the 17th of the Fifth Month 1902, and endorsed by Eastern Quarterly Meeting of Friends held the 21st of the same month, liberating him to attend some meetings in Pennsylvania

Also to attend New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Westerly, Rhode Island; appoint meetings going and returning, and to labor within the limits of this Yearly Meetings as truth may open the way; and they liberated and encouraged him to pursue his prospect under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
He being a minister in unity with them.

The company and gospel labors of our dear friend, Henry T. Cutland, named in the foregoing minute, have been acceptable, encouraging and comforting to us, and the Clerk is directed to prepare a certificate, setting forth the same, and sign it on behalf of this Meeting.

We have received and read at this time acceptable Epistles from Ohio, Canada, Western, Kansas, and Iowa Yearly Meetings which we believe have a living concern for our welfare, affording us much encouragement by bringing consolation to our minds. The following named friends: Arthur Perry, James H. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, Amos O. Foster, Jesse Tucker, John T. Wilbur, Charles Perry, Samuel C. Webster and Jonathan Chase were named, as way opens for it, to make a reply or replies to these epistles and present at a future sitting of this meeting.

The committee having the consent

of the meeting to take into careful consideration, the answering of the epistles received at this time, either separately or by one general letter.

A letter of Gospel love, received at this time from our dear friend, Elizabeth H. Cooper has been read at this sitting and it brings much comfort to us. It is referred to the committee on epistles already appointed for reply.

Jonathan Chase and John T. Willis are appointed to prepare a Summary of the Answers to the Queries and present it at the sitting of this meeting this afternoon.

We appoint George H. Gifford and Amos C. Foster to examine the account of the Treasurer of this meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year and report at a future sitting of this meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the meeting as Clerk, and the name of another Friend for assistant clerk for the year ensuing and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the 4th hour this afternoon.

After-noon, met pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the representatives being called they were present except one.

George C. Foster, on behalf of the representatives reported that they had met and that they were united in proposing the names of Job S. Gidley for clerk and Amos O. Foster for assistant clerk their names being separately considered, both nominations were approved and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year.

The records of the meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved, and it was concluded to appoint the following friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the year ensuing viz:-

Jesse Tucker	George Foster
James H. Tucker	Jonathan Chase
Job S. Gidley	Amos O. Foster
John J. Wilbur	George C. Foster
George H. Gifford	Charles Perry.
Sarah F. Wilbur	Mary A. Gardner
Susanna W. Gidley	Anna H. Chase
Lydia F. Nichols.	

A letter from our dear friend, Benjamin P. Brown of North Carolina, has been received and read at this time, to our edification and comfort, and it is referred to the committee on epistles for reply.

The Queries were read at this time with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings, and a Summary having been prepared by the committee, named at our morning sitting; it was also read and the clerk is directed to record the same.

While considering the State of Society as shown by the Answers to the Queries, Friends were brought under a living concern to exercise a more watchful care in regard to faithfulness in the attendance of all of our meetings both for worship and Discipline thereby, in a measure, encouraging one another in the maintenance of all the precious principles which we profess.

And we were exhorted to let nothing pertaining to this life come between us and our love to God, but to "Bring all the tithes into the store-house and prove me now herewith saith the Lord of Hosts if I will not open the windows of Heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room to receive it."

Adjourned to the 3rd hour, Third-day afternoon, the 17th.

Third-day afternoon, the 17th, met pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the representatives being called, they were present as at the previous sittings.

The committee on epistles after having carefully considered the subject referred to them, whether to answer the epistles received from other Yearly Meetings separately as heretofore, or by one general letter, reached the conclusion that it seemed best to the Committee to send a separate epistle to each of the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond.

Essays of epistles were produced and read at this time to Ohio, Kansas, Iowa, Western and Canada Yearly Meetings. They were approved by this Meeting and the clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to those meetings respectively.

Arthur Perry on behalf of the Committee on epistles, reported, that in regard to the letter received from our dear friend Benjamin P Bhown, which was referred to the committee on Epistles for reply, that it was concluded to authorize the clerk of this Meeting to prepare a suitable reply and forward the same, after being signed by the Clerk of the Women's Meeting.

The letter, received from our dear friend, Elizabeth L. Cooper, was referred to the same committee for reply. The clerk of this meeting was authorized to sign such a reply as the clerk of the Women's Meeting might prepare.

The committee, appointed at our first sitting, to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose

the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, make the following report:

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting:
Your committee have examined the books of the Treasurer and found his account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed, and there is a balance in his hands of $1,224.20. We propose the name of George C. Foster for Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

(Signed,)— George Hussey Gifford } Committee
Asahel C. Foster }

The report is satisfactory to this Meeting and George C. Foster, is appointed Treasurer for the ensuing years.

The Book and Tract committee have made the following report:—

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting:—
The distribution of Tracts has been continued since the last report, though not as many have been sent out, we think, as in some past years. The supply now on hand is small, which perhaps has prevented some from sending to Public Institutions as largely as heretofore, though a little has been done in that line, including the sending 780 pages of Tracts to the State Institutions of Rhode Island, at Cranston. Juvenile Tracts have also been distributed as way opened. One Friend, not a member of the Committee, reports "having mailed 1800 pages of Tracts to individuals, and sending

1200 pages in letters hoping that some good seed may have been sown in that way, yet not knowing which shall prosper, "this or that."

We believe some members of the Committee are diligent in the distribution of Tracts, while other members perhaps are more neglectful in the service.

We have sent to Philadelphia, the past year for a few Tracts and paid for the same from funds of the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee will endeavor to get a fresh supply soon, so as to be better prepared to distribute them, when way opens for it.

(Signed) George C. Foster (on behalf of the Committee.)

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting and the same Friends are continued as a committee, and they are encouraged to procure and distribute such books and tracts as in their judgment they think will best advance the cause of truth and righteousness. They are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

It is concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting - both Men's and Women's; also the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings together with the letters from our dear friends Benjamin P. Brown and Elizabeth C. Cooper, addressed to this Meeting.

The care of the printing of the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Charles Perry of Westerly, Rhode Island, and Job S. Gidley of North Dartmouth, Mass are appointed correspondents of this meeting for the ensuing year.

The clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the minutes of this Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

The business claiming our attention has been concluded in harmony and we trust that we are not unmindful, that the strength to do this was given by Him, who is able to make all see eye to eye who look alone to Him for help; and may we return thanks unto Him for the unmerited blessings which He has poured out upon us at this time. Inasmuch as He has, poor, weak and unworthy as we are, sent His messengers amongst us to proclaim the unsearchable riches of His love. And now as we separate and return to our homes, some it may be in isolated places; may we more and more look unto the Father of all our sure mercies and treasure up in good and honest hearts that which will bring forth fruit to His glory.

We now conclude, purposing to meet at this place in the Sixth month next year if consistent with the Divine will.

Job S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary of Answers to the Queries.

Ans. 1st All our meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held, and attended on First Days by a considerable part of our members who are in suitable health; but there seems to be a lack of a right concern on the part of some, to keep up the attendance of mid-week meetings and those for discipline. The hour is pretty well observed by nearly all. But little appearance of sleep. No other unbecoming behavior noticed.

Ans. 2nd Love and unity appear to be pretty well maintained and detraction guarded against. No differences have appeared.

Ans. 3rd. Some care rests with Friends to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel; and in a good measure to guard, ~~to~~ against pernicious reading and corrupt conversation. Some Friends are exemplary therein themselves. The Holy Scriptures, we believe, are frequently read in Friends' families.

Ans. 4th Friends avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicinal purposes — one exception being named — and the unnecessary frequenting of places of public resort; and we believe, keep in moderation and Temperance in a good measure in relation to the several subjects referred to in the query. Some Friends, we fear, have not used sufficient care as to plainness at-

funerals and in the furnishing of their houses.

Ans. 5th. The circumstances of the poor are considered, and their necessities relieved. All children of school age have school advantages. The children placed, from among Friends.

Ans 6th. Parents and heads of families, with the young and unmarried, we think, are desirous that proceedings with respect to marriage conform to our discipline, although there is need of more care in this respect.

Ans. 7th. Friends generally maintain a testimony against a paid ministry, yet some Friends have a few times attended meeting where a paid ministry is sanctioned. They also maintain a testimony against the several other matters referred to in the query.

Ans 8th. We believe Friends, with little exception, exercise care in inspecting their affairs and in settling their accounts; are punctual to their promises; just in the payment of their debts; and endeavor to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9th. The Records have been kept of births, deaths and burials, with one exception no removals without a certificate.

Ans. 10th. Some care rests with Friends to deal with offenders when occasion requires it, and to place judgment according to

discipline. One account states that "owing to our weak state little of this nature has had attention the past year."

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends,

Dear Friends, —

Our Yearly Meeting has gathered under a renewed sense of its small membership and of its weak condition. We have felt peculiarly stripped through the removal by death during the past few years of those who have been to us, as fathers and mothers in Israel. We know there is One alone who can speak to our condition, and yet we know also that He at times speaks through human instruments we have been especially strengthened and comforted at this time by the true sympathy and deep spiritual exercise on our behalf, evidenced in the epistles from the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond. We are grateful to the Friends from distant Yearly Meetings who have been drawn to us, and for their labors of gospel love amongst us. With all our shortcomings and unworthiness we humbly acknowledge the Divine Presence and the overshadowing grace and love of the Most High.

The Society of Friends still has a work to do. It must continue to bear testimony to simplicity in life and to spirituality in religion. Our meetings may

or may not be marked by oral testimony, but if they are to be free channels for the word, they must have a membership of individuals by exercised and prayerful hearts filled with the Holy Spirit, waiting upon the Most High and obedient to his leadings. We must shun all formality, even that possible formality of the silence of souls not filled with Worship. Then will be experienced the fellowship of true disciples of the Lord, the flowing of blessing as from vessel to vessel, that true spiritual communion at which He supps with us, and we with Him, and then weak in the flesh but endued with power from on High, an anointed ministry may hand forth the word of life to the comfort and healing of souls.

We greet you, brethren, in the love of Christ and crave your prayerful remembrance for us, that we be not self centred, but that our hearts be enlarged to all classes and conditions of men, and that we be kept in the way of truth and righteousness.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:—

Through the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly Father we have been enabled to meet once more in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting and a desire has arisen to address you, we trust in a measure of that love

vouchsafed to all rightly concerned for the honor of truth. When your epistle of the 10th month last, was read together with the others from the meetings with which we correspond, filled with messages of love and good cheer, we were sensibly made to feel that the tie which should bind together those of the same household of faith, is strengthened by these yearly greetings.

Since our last Yearly Meeting several of our members have been removed by death and as our ranks are thus being thinned, it behooves us who remain to put our confidence in Him alone, who is mighty to save all who trust in Him, that we may be qualified to take the fallen mantels of the worthies who have gone before; for it seems to us that there never was a time since the rise of our Society when it was more needful than now that the principles which we profess should be proclaimed to the world by dedicated servants of the living God.

We may say that the dear youth of your Yearly Meeting were brought very near to us, by the reading of your letter, and we feel to extend to each of them a message of love, and we would encourage them to heed the language: "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth while the evil days come not nor the years draw nigh when thou shalt say I have no pleasure in them." Dear young people, there is no other way into the Kingdom than by the cross. Christ Jesus said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow me."

Then, dear ones, be not weary in well doing for in the end ye shall reap if we faint not.

And be not discouraged by the many little things that seem to arise in the path before you that tend to hinder your progress Zionward but look to the unslumbering Shepherd of Israel for strength to surmount them and press forward toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, remembering that it is only by continued faithfulness in well doing that this haven of rest can ever be reached. Growth in grace is like the developement of the plant, "First the blade, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear."

We thus desire your growth in grace and that you remain passive in the hands of the Divine architect to be so moulded and fashioned by Him that you may fill the place designed for each one of you.

When the answers to the queries were read showing our many shortcomings we were tenderly spoken to by concerned friends that we double our diligence in striving to maintain all our precious principles before the world and that we should let no business engagements prevent the attendance of all our meetings.

May their kindly words uttered on our behalf not fall upon deaf ears, but may they be like seed falling upon good ground, that shall bring forth fruit to the glory of God, some thirty, some sixty and some even a hundred fold."

We have with us at this time a few friends from elsewhere who have been favored to divide the word aright amongst us. Their company has been like a brook

by the way and that they may return to their homes in peace bearing their sheaves with them is our earnest prayer. "The harvest truly is great but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into His harvest."

With a salutation of love we remain your friends.

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends,

Dear Friends:-

Again we have been permitted to assemble in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting.

We have received an epistle from your Yearly Meeting together with those from the other Meetings with which we correspond. The reading of them has awakened a feeling of brotherly love towards those of the same household of faith though they may be widely scattered still are closely united in the bond of true christian fellowship.

There never was a time when it was more needful than now for Friends to live up to the peacable principles of their profession as taught by our Saviour both by precept and by example when personally among men.

As of old, many of those who consider themselves as leaders in religious work seem to think that if He is let alone all men will believe on Him, and we shd lose both our place and nation and

would (like the desciples before being fully redeemed from the world) be glad to call down fire from Heaven to consume those whom they considered as their enemies.

Cruelty and extermination is the work of fallen man and not the work of him that has been renewed, and walks under the peaceful government of Christ.

We have with us at this time a few who have left their homes in distant parts of the country to visit us, in the love of the gospel, whose company and labors have been encouraging and strengthening to us. May their labors bring them the reward of peace.

Your concern for the guarded education of your dear young children cannot fail to bear good fruit if you will but follow the leading of Him, who said "Without me you can do nothing." "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven" was his declaration and they who have come to middle age or have passed it, may find much food for serious thought in the declaration.

As God in his wisdom saw fit that man should not by the wisdom of the world attain the blessings of Heaven and Heavenly things; let us walk in the valley of humility, and he will lead us, guide us, and in his mercy supply all our needs.

In love we remain your friends.

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends,——

Again have we been permitted to assemble in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, and again are we reminded of our weak and feeble condition; so that we are led to exclaim in the language of one formerly: "The fathers where are they and the prophets, do they live forever." Truly the ways of the Lord are inscrutable and past finding out by human understanding but it is our duty to bow in humble submission to his Divine will, who can make "waters break out in the wilderness and streams in the desert, so that the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water," who can when he sees fit meet, advance his Kingdom on the earth by such means and in such ways as are most pleasing in his Divine sight. As we feel the loss of many of our members within the last few years, who have been with us and have helped us to bear the burden laid upon us, and have now passed from works to rewards, we feel constrained to say, "By shall Jacob arise, for he is small." Though the outlook is thus discouraging at times a grain of faith is given us to believe that our Heavenly Father is not wholly unmindful of us, but will in his own good time arise with healing in his wings, and we shall be permitted to hear the language "Fear not thou worm Jacob, I will help thee, saith the Lord and Thy redeemer the Holy One of Israel."

In one of your late epistles you speak of the fewness of your numbers, and call

attention to the small number of the disciples of Christ when he walked with them on the earth; and to the small number of Gideon's band, to whom the Lord gave deliverance and victory over their enemies; and surely His hand is not shortened that he cannot save all who come unto Him, placing their dependance upon Him alone, minding only that they be found waiting for and upon Him with sincere and trusting hearts as is alluded to by the Royal Psalmist when he says," Blessed is that man that maketh the Lord his trust".

The great need of the Church now, as it ever has been is individual faithfulness, without this it is in vain to expect prosperity in our Israel. To come unto Christ we must meet Him in the way of His coming, willing and ready to take His yoke upon us and learn of Him in the school of meekness and humility. for the humble he will teach of His ways and the meek will he guide in judgement.

It is with satisfaction that the usual Epistles from other Yearly Meetings have been received. They are fraught with the Spirit of love for the Master's Cause, and for those who are seeking to follow in his footsteps- endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace. These tokens of love passing between brethren of the same household of faith; are helpful in reminding us that though far apart as to the outward our spiritual welfare is a subject which engages the concern of our distant brethren. And we are made to mingle in sympathy for and with each other.

One of the marks of true discipleship is that we have love one for another. This

love expresses itself especially in living desires begotten in us for the welfare of all wherever situated and for a steadfast growth in the truth of all such as desire a closer walk with God, and the increase of such a frame of mind as can feel and realize when the blessed influence of our Fathers loving hand is upon us. whether in mercy chastening us for our good, or granting the sweet (mornings) influence of his spirit to rest upon us encouraging and sustaining us in our trials and besetments, that we may be enabled to hold out to the end. Those who are seeking after a growth in those things which make for our well being here and hereafter, should not grow weary but keep on the watch, lest the enemy, who is ever seeking an entrance into our hearts, shall by his cunning and subtilty gain an influence over us. Let us remember the injunction of Christ, "What I say unto you, I say unto all - watch."

We notice in your epistle of last year your remarks upon the devastating effects of war upon those engaged in this most unholy strife - and the utter incompatibility of its spirit with the peaceful and forgiving nature wrought in the heart where the spirit of Christ is permitted to enter and rule therein. O, may the day dawn when the nations of the earth shall be willing to adopt & practice the precept - "whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them."

And now, dear friends, let us not grow weary in well doing, but strive to do and fulfil whatever we find is laid upon us looking for strength and ability to Him who alone is strength in weakness and

will lay upon us, no heavier burden than with His sustaining help we shall be able to endure.

With love unfeigned we remain your friends and brethren

To Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends, —

Our little meeting has again been permitted to assemble, and although much reduced in numbers by the removal by death of some who have been as standard bearers — we feel that His guiding spirit has been around about us. That the "Lords hand is not shortened that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear."

Our desire is for more faithfulness for a greater devotion to principle for a sacrifice of self and selfish interests. That we may not be a reproach to the Church and that our hearts may be prepared to receive the Holy Spirit of Christ the Lord.

We salute you in that bond of love which deprecates all strife, which draws men into unity one with another and cements the ties of christian brotherhood.

Your Epistle with those from other meetings has been a strength and encouragement to us — containing love and sympathy which finds a deep

response in our hearts.

Acknowledging our straightened and weak condition we feel to speak words of encouragement and to bid you be of good cheer, hopeful in times of trouble, faithful at all times, abounding in the grace of the Lord.

There is at present a quiet in the storm of strife which has engaged many nationalities within its embrace for a few years past. For this relief we are grateful. But the preparations made indicate only too clearly that we are not free from further injury by this great evil. May we as a people be enabled to maintain our testimony faithfully to the end against this great wrong.

We have with us at this time several dear friends from other Yearly Meetings whose words of counsel and admonition have been comforting to us. With a salutation of love we bid you farewell.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved, and it was concluded to appoint the following Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, The Womens Meeting concurring.

George Foster
Jonathan Chace
Amos C. Foster
George C. Foster
Charles Peirce
Mary A. Gardner
Anna H. Chace
Lydia F. Nichols
James H. Tucker
Job S. Gidley
John T. Wilbur
George H. Gifford
Sarah F. Wilbur
Susanna W. Gidley

It is concluded to print the minutes of the Yearly Meeting both mens and womens; also the epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this meeting

The care of the printing of the minutes together with the Epistles received and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Signed by direction and on behalf of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly R. I. by adjournments from the 13th to the 16th 7th mo. 6th inclusive 1903.

Job S. Gidley Clerk

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westerly Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First Day, the 14th of the Sixth Month 1903, and on Second Day the 15th with those for Discipline

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting, viz:

From Rhode Island Quarter - George Foster, George C. Foster, Amos O. Foster, Charles Perry, and Arthur Perry.

From Sandwich Quarter - George H. Gifford, James H. Tucker, and Job S. Gidley

Whose names being called they were all present except one who was absent on account of sickness.

Sandwich Quarterly Meeting informs this Meeting that George H. Gifford is appointed to the station of Elder, and of the approval of the gift and public appearance in the Ministry of Isabelle S. Gifford.

Our dear Friend Harvey H. Haight attended this meeting with a Minute from Norwich Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Norwich, Ontario, Canada, the eleventh of the Third Month 1903; endorsed by Norwich Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Norwich, Ontario, Canada, Third Month 14th 1903 liberating him to attend New England Yearly Meeting of Friends the meetings composing it and visiting the families thereof as way may open, which being united with, he is left at liberty to pursue his labors as Truth may open the way, he being a minister in unity.

The company and gospel labors of our dear Friend Harvey H. Haight named in the foregoing Minute have been acceptable and strengthening to us; and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this Minute and sign it on our behalf.

Our dear Friend Samuel T. Haight attended this Meeting with a Minute from Norwich Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Norwich, Ontario, Canada, the thirteenth of Fifth Month, 1903, approving his concern to accompany Harry H. Haight on his proposed visit to New England.

The company and solid deportment of our dear Friend Samuel T. Haight named in the foregoing Minute have been pleasant and satisfactory to us, and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this Minute and sign it on our behalf.

Our dear Friend Marianna V. Wood, attended this Meeting with a minute from Pickering Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Pickering, Ontario, Canada, the Seventh of the Fifth Month 1903, endorsed by Yonge Street Four Months Meeting held at Yonge Street, Ontario, Canada, the thirtieth of Fifth Month 1903, liberating her to visit in the love of the gospel, New England Yearly Meeting, and the Meetings composing it. And such other services as Truth may direct; she being a minister in unity with us.

The company and labor of love of our dear Friend Marianna V. Wood named in the foregoing Minute have been acceptable and strengthening and the clerk is directed to sign on our behalf such a returning Minute as Women Friends may prepare.

We have received and read, at this time acceptable Epistles from Ohio, Canada, Western, Kansas and Iowa Yearly Meetings fraught with love and good cheer and bearing evidence that Friends in different parts of the Lords heritage are striving to walk by the same rule and mind the same thing.

And we appoint our friends Jonathan Chase, James H. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, George B. Foster,

Arthur Perry, and George H. Gifford to prepare as way opens for it essays of replies to these letters and produce at a future sitting of this Meeting. The Committee have the consent of this Meeting to take into careful consideration, whether to prepare separate Epistles to send to these Meetings or reply by one general letter as way may open for it.

Amos C. Foster and Charles Perry are appointed to prepare a summary of the answers to the queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

We appoint James H. Tucker and George H. Gifford to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the year ensuing and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk, and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk, for the ensuing year and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon, met pursuant to adjournment. The names of the representatives being called they were present as at our morning sitting

Charles Perry, on behalf of the representatives reported that they had met and that they were united in proposing the names of Job S. Gidley for clerk and Amos C. Foster for assistant clerk.

Their names being separately considered, both nominations were approved and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year, or till others are appointed in their place.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved, and it was concluded to appoint the following Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, the Women's meeting concurring, viz: —

George Foster
Jonathan Chase
Amos C. Foster
George C. Foster
Charles Perry
Mary A. Gardner
Anna M. Chase
Lydia F. Nichols
James H. Tucker
Job S. Gidley
John T. Wilbur
George H. Gifford
Sarah F. Wilbur
Susanna N. Gidley

The Queries were read at this time with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings, and a summary having been prepared by the committee named at our morning sitting, it was also read, and the clerk is directed to record the same.

While considering the state of Society as shown by the answers to the Queries, Friends were brought into deep exercise of spirit, and a close examination on account of the many deficiencies, and we were made sensibly to feel that had those, whose duty it is to watch over the flocks, been more livingly engaged in feeding them, as the great apostle commanded the Elders of the church of Ephesus to do, it may be that our shortcomings would have been fewer in number; nevertheless it is needful for all to have a closer walk with God, thereby made willing to gird on the whole of His armor, and be strengthened to maintain all our precious principles.

We were reminded by those in attendance from other Yearly Meetings, of the great necessity there is for all of us to be humble in our daily walks among the children of men,

and parents were earnestly encouraged to have a watchful care over children on account of the contaminating influence of much of the literature that is published at the present day, and that parents should submit their necks to the yoke of Christ and be ensamples for the children to follow.

The committee appointed at our first sitting to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting, and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year relate the following report;

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting;

Your Committee have examined the books of the Treasurer and found his account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed and there is a balance in his hands of $1,244.57.

We propose the name of George C. Foster for Treasurer of this meeting for the ensuing year.

Signed James H. Tucker
George Henry Gifford } Committee.

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting and George C. Foster is appointed Treasurer for the ensuing year, or until another appointment.

Adjourned to the third hour, Third-day afternoon the 16th.

Third-day afternoon the 16th, and pursuant to adjournment.

The names of the representatives being called they were present as at the previous sittings.

The committee on Epistles have carefully considered the subject referred to them in regard to whether separate replies to the epistles received from other Yearly Meetings should be prepared as heretofore; or whether one general letter

should be written; and have concluded to prepare a separate replies as Truth may open the way therefor.

Essays of Epistles to Ohio, Canada, Iowa Western, and Kansas Yearly Meetings were produced and read at this time and approved.

The clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to those Yearly Meetings respectively.

The Book and Tract Committee have made the following report:

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting:

A considerable number of tracts have been distributed during the past year; in some cases they have been gratefully acknowledged; in others nothing is heard from them, and we can only hope that they have been a means of good in some instances at least.

Two members of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, who are not members of this Tract Committee, report having distributed 4362 pages in the following manner,— 986 pages in letters, 306 pages by mail to different individuals, 1000 pages to State Institutions in Rhode Island, and 1000 pages to St. Lukes Hospital in New Bedford, Mass. also sent by mail 500 pages placed in a box for Rhode Island Hospital 370 pages sent in packages to the Home for the Friendless in New York city.

Other members of the committee have circulated some in the vicinity of Westerly.

One Friend having mailed a considerable number to a distant State to circulate among Friends, has in some cases received replies which indicated that they were gratefully received and appreciated and good might result from reading such tracts.

Signed

On behalf of the Committee

George C. Foster.

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting and the same Friends, viz; George Foster, George C. Foster Job S. Gidley, James H. Tucker, Anne C. Foster Frederic C. Buffum, Arthur Perry, Martha B. Sheffield Anna H. Chase Elizabeth P. Foster, Sarah F. Wilbur Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Emma A. F. Perry, Anna A. Gardner and George H. Gifford are continued as a committee, and they are encouraged to procure and distribute such Books and Tracts, as in their judgment they think will but advance the cause of truth and righteousness, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

It is concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting, both Men's and Women's also the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting.

The care of the printing of the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Charles Perry of Westerly, Rhode Island, and Job S. Gidley of North Dartmouth, Mass. are appointed correspondents for this Meeting for the year ensuing.

The clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of the Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

The business claiming our attention has been conducted in much harmony, and the unity of ancient goodness seemed to be spread over the various sittings of the Yearly Meeting and our hearts were tendered by the love of God, which is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto us;

and as we separate and return to our respective abodes, may we treasure up the precious truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ which have been handed forth unto us.

We now conclude, purposing to meet at this place in the Sixth Month next year, if consistent with the Divine will

Job S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary of Answers to the Queries.

Answer 1st. All of our meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held with the exception of one on First day omitted on account of a funeral of a member of our Society held near the same hour, and two mid-week meetings not held on account of rough weather.

The First day meetings have been satisfactorily attended, but the mid-week meetings and those for discipline neglected by a number of Friends. The hour is pretty well observed. Not much appearance of sleep and no other unbecoming behavior noticed.

Ans. 2nd. Love and unity are pretty well maintained, detraction mostly guarded against, and no differences have come to our knowledge.

Ans. 3rd. We think Friends exercise some care to bring up those under their direction in plainness of speech, behavior, and apparel, and to restrain them from pernicious reading and corrupt conversation. They are in some measure exemplary herein themselves, and the Holy Scriptures, we believe, are frequently read in Friends' families.

Ans. 4th Friends avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine, with perhaps one exception, and the unnecessary frequenting of public places; and use moderation and temperance on most occasions.

Ans. 5th The circumstances of the poor are inspected, and their necessities relieved. All children of school age attend the public schools. No children placed from among Friends.

Ans. 6th Parents and heads of families with the young and unmarried, exercise some care that proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline.

Ans. 7th Most Friends appear to maintain a testimony against a paid ministry, although a few of our members attend meetings at times where such ministry is sanctioned.

Ans. 8th We believe Friends exercise care in inspecting their affairs and in settling their accounts, are punctual to their promises, just in the payment of their debts, and endeavor to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9th Friends are careful to keep a record of marriages, births, deaths and burials.

No removals during the past year without certificates.

Ans 10th Friends are concerned to deal with offenders when occasion requires it, and to place judgment as the discipline provides.

No judgment has been placed since our last account.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings

To Ohio Yearly Meeting
of Friends

Dear Friends:-

Since writing you last year, two of our aged members, fathers in our Israel, have been removed by death from our ranks to join, we trust, the angelic throng of the Church of the first born.

Though our loss is their eternal gain nevertheless we greatly miss them, for only a very small number is left, endeavoring, as ability is given, to hold fast to the Truth and stand upon the true foundation of christianity of which Christ Jesus is the chief corner stone, believing this is the only way whereby a Yearly Meeting of real Friends can be maintained

Two deaths in one year and none added to our membership make us feel the loss perhaps more keenly than though our number was larger; but we crave that a remnant amongst us will be preserved having that hope which is as an anchor to the soul both sure and steadfast.

Your letter to us was full of love and good cheer and when read in our assembly brought consolation to our drooping spirits.

When we cannot have the company of our friends; it is very comforting to receive these kindly greetings written with the assistance of the Spirit of the living God acting upon our spirits.

In the early history of the christian church this means of communication between those of the same household of faith was made use of; and if when engaged in this service we are endued with a measure

of the same spirit that enabled the Apostles to prepare that wonderful epistle recorded in the fifteenth chapter of Acts, (we believe, for our encouragement,) it must bring brethren into closer fellowship

When it is well with you, remember us in your petitions to the Throne of Grace, and when the Lord of Lords and King of Kings holds forth His sceptre unto you that you may approach nigh unto Him and receive power to go forth and labor in His vineyard; and if any amongst you are called and led forth into His harvest, "Come over into Macedonia and help us"

A few friends are with us from other Yearly Meetings, which is encouraging, reminding us that we are not forgotten by Him who hath qualified them for the work whereunto he called them, and hath made them willing to come and visit us. May their labor of love amongst us not be in vain but that the truths of the gospel which they declare may sink deep into our hearts and bring forth fruit to the glory of God

Farewell in the Lord.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting
of Friends,

Dear Friends:—

Your acceptable epistle of last year was read in our meeting to our edification and comfort, serving to encourage us somewhat to labor on in our course although our little body stripped and peeled as it has been, is again called upon to mourn the removal of some who have been pillars in the Church and valiants in the Lords cause.

They have borne the burden and heat of the day.

and have wrought faithfully for many years; standing steadfast like watchmen upon the walls holding not their peace, nor keeping silence but making mention of the Lords Holy Name.

Having fought the good fight and kept the faith we reverently hope and believe they are numbered among those whose names are written in the Lambs book of life.

We read of old that "They that feared the Lord spake often one to another and we believe that this correspondence, if rightly entered into between bodies of Friends who are concerned to maintain the ancient faith in its purity is most wholesome and encouraging; but we have also as a body been deeply exercised and concerned, lest on our part it might not be quickened by that life and light which alone is able to qualify for any availing service in the work of the Church.

Though few in numbers and very weak, there has been vouchsafed to us an evidence of the overshadowing of the Divine Presence. We have also been strengthened and lifted up by the presence and gospel labors of some of the Lords servants from other Yearly Meetings whose pertinent counsel, admonition and supplication in our behalf we hope and trust have not fallen on stony ground but may encourage us to more faithfulness to the intimations of duty remembering the promise that — "where two or three are gathered together in His name there will He be also" in the midst of them.

It seems to us that this is a time which calls, in an especial manner upon the Society of Friends for greater dedication

and faithfulness. Our country has grown great and powerful and we fear lest the people having waxed fat and strong may some of them forget their allegiance to Him in whose hands are the destiny of nations. That He the everlasting God and Father of us all the Creator of Heaven and Earth is able to build up and to tear down and it is only as His blessing rests upon any people that they can be truly prosperous.

The cattle upon a thousand hills are His - yea, and the fullness thereof - He can bless a little and blast a great deal. He created man in his own image and placed him here, making him a little lower than the Angels that he might serve Him and glorify His name. But if the people become puffed up and forget that every blessing comes from Him and cease to serve and obey Him, will he not chastize them until they return unto their faithfulness?

Our desire is, dear friends, for us and for all gathered in the name of Friends (in a special sense) wherever they may be - that we may keep humble remembering Him from whom all blessings flow - that we may be fervent in spirit, diligent in business serving the Lord - forgetting not to be charitable.

That others seeing our good works may glorify Him and so peradventure this our favored people may cease to shrink and dwindle and again see a time of house building and much gathering.

With a salutation of love we are your friends.

To Western Yearly Meeting
of Friends

Dear Friends:-

Though few we have been enabled to meet again in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting and have been refreshed and comforted by the Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond.

On the reading of them in our meeting, we and the few Friends from other Yearly Meetings were made sensibly to feel that there was a covering over us that was not of man, nor by man, filling our hearts with thankfulness that we are not forsaken nor forgotten in our little gathering by the Great Head of the Church inasmuch as he has led brethren in different parts of the heritage to speak to us in a language that is understood by the first of all generations.

We feel the loss of those who have borne the burden in the heat of the day, for it has left us few in number, though not without hope that the day will come that shall bring again Zion, and see the many mists that have been carefully woven by the wisdom of this world arround religious things, brushed away and an altar built of stones that have not been known by the hand of man, from which shall be offered a sacrifice for a people who earnestly desire the way in which the ransomed and redeemed of all generations have been favored to walk.

Oh that the children of men could be led to see the frailty of earthly things, and seek that which shall endure for ever, giving rest and peace while here,

and an inheritance among the redeemed when time with them shall be no more.

Our meetings have been favored seasons to us; much tender counsel and encouragement have been handed forth for which we feel truly thankful, and may we profit thereby.

Finally brethren farewell and may His goodness and mercy follow you and us all the days of our lives.

To Canada Yearly Meeting
of Friends,

Dear Friends:-

Your last epistle sympathising with us in our stripped condition, when read in our Yearly Meeting touched a tender chord in our hearts, and we were sensibly made to feel that God is able to make hard things easy and bitter things sweet.

Two valiant ones during the past year, have been removed from works to rewards. May the Lord the Mighty God of Jacob tender the hearts of others who are left and qualify them to take up their fallen mantles.

One of these departed worthies carried the first epistle from our Yearly Meeting to yours several years since, and last year at his advanced age, wrote his last epistle which was sent to you.

We agree with you in believing there is a goodly number in our beloved Society who have its welfare at heart, and we earnestly desire that the remnant may continue to dwell in the secret place of the Most High for those who do this shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

and if this be the case God will be able to give the remnant power to overcome the influence of those who, under our name, seem to be striving to carry the Society away into Babylon.

We believe that never before since the rise of the Society of Friends was there a time when it was more needful than now, for all real Friends to be united in fellowship.

Could all such as these everywhere be brought into true christian fellowship, would they not be able to drive away the grievous wolves whom the great Apostle prophesied would come amongst us not sparing the flock?

But the declaration is "If we walk in the light as he is in the light we have fellowship one with another and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin"

Our desire and prayer to God for you and ourselves is that we all might take up this walk with God.

And when this cleansing operation takes place it is our belief that the Church will be brought up out of the wilderness, leaning upon the arm of her beloved "Fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners."

A few friends are with us from other Yearly Meetings. Their presence and gospel labors amongst us is indeed strengthening and encouraging. "As iron sharpeneth iron, so doth a man the countenance of his friend"

O may each one of us take the lessons unto ourselves, which by the operation of Divine guidance, they have been enabled to impart, and may they take root downward, and bear fruit upward in honor of the great Husbandman.

To Iowa Yearly Meeting
of Friends,

Dear Friends:-

Ye are among those who have obeyed the injunction; "Strengthen ye the weak hands and confirm the feeble knees" for we are few in number and weak indeed, and the sympathy and admonition of your epistle have given comfort, encouragement, and strength. We feel also to acknowledge the Divine favor which has been manifested through the presence with us at this time of Ministers and Friends from other Yearly Meetings. We have been privileged to realize in some degree the overshadowing presence and power of the Most High in our sittings. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above" and we are thankful to the Father of lights for the manifestation of his love toward us.

It is in our hearts to remind you that the world has need today as of old of the testimonies and the principles of our beloved Society. The infilling and indwelling of the Holy Spirit, a Divinely anointed ministry - the one true baptism of the Holy Ghost - the real effectual communion of our hearts through the Holy Spirit with the Most High. - Christ being our great High Priest whereby we may, at times, and at seasons have access unto God - how the Church Universal needs these living principles.

In this age of multiplied cares and complex living, how needful the testimony of plain, simple, holy lives.

We confess how far short of the realization we come, but nevertheless rejoice in the precious heritage which is ours. if we will but take it and show forth in our lives its truth and its virtues.

And how we are bowed in humility because of unworthiness, and because of responsibility through knowledge of the truth.

Nevertheless we crave for us and for you Divine strength and guidance that we may not neglect this high calling but "forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before" press toward the mark" being obedient unto the light;--and letting our light so shine before men that others seeing our good works may glorify our Father which is in heaven."

We would that our Society might "be like a tree planted by the rivers of water" that is by Christ the living water— the individual members abiding in Him, even as the living branches abide in the tree and partake of the nature thereof.

As we looked forward to this Yearly Meeting, we hardly knew how in our weakness we could hold it, But now near its close we are led to wonder how through unmerited mercies we have been kept as in the hollow of His hand.— and we feel to exclaim with the Psalmist,

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits"

Finally, brethren we feel to ask you to bear us in remembrance before Him, and "may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you"

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westerly Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First-Day, the 12th of the Sixth Month, 1904, and Second Day the 13th with those for Discipline,

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting Viz:-

From Rhode Island Quarter, Arthur Perry, George C. Foster, Amos O. Foster, and Charles Perry.

From Sandwich Quarter - James H. Tucker, George H. Gifford and Jesse R. Tucker, whose names being called, they were all present and answered thereto.

Sandwich Quarterly Meeting informs this Meeting that Sarah E. Mitchell and Susanna W. Gidley are appointed to the station of Elder.

Our dear Friend Jonathan E. Rhoads attended this Meeting with a Minute from Wilmington Monthly Meeting of Friends, Delaware, Sixth Month, 9th, 1904, liberating him to visit in gospel love, New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Westerly Rhode Island, and the meetings composing it. He is set at liberty to perform the service as Best Wisdom may direct, he being a minister in unity.

The company and gospel labors of our dear Friend Jonathan E. Rhoads named in the foregoing Minute have brought edification and comfort to us, and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this Minute and sign it on our behalf.

Our dear Friend Benjamin P. Brown attended this Meeting with a Minute from Rich Square Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Rich Square, North Hampton County, North Carolina,

Endorsed by Eastern Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Piney Woods, North Carolina, liberating him to attend New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly, Rhode Island, appoint meetings going and returning, and if way opens for it, attend some of the meetings of the Larger Body. He is left at liberty and encouraged to perform the service under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The company and gospel labors of our dear Friend Benjamin P. Brown named in the foregoing Minute, have been acceptable and strengthening to us, and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this Minute and sign it on our behalf.

Our dear Friend Eliza H. Varney attended this Meeting with a Minute from West Lake Monthly Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Bloomfield, Ontario Canada, Third Month 17th, 1904, liberating her to attend New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly Rhode Island, the meetings composing it and such other service as may be called for at her hands; also to attend Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and a few meetings within its limits, if way opens therefor and Truth directs, and whatever service is required of her within its limits as Best Wisdom may direct.

The company and labor of love of our dear Friend Eliza H. Varney named in the foregoing Minute have been helpful and satisfactory to us, and the clerk is directed to sign on our behalf such a returning Minute as Women Friends may prepare.

We have received and read at this time acceptable Epistles from Canada, Western, Iowa, and Kansas Yearly Meetings.

replete with expressions of good will bringing to our drooping spirits encouragement and consolation.

And we appoint our Friends Jonathan Chase, Arthur Perry, Pot S. Gidley, James H. Tucker, George H. Gifford, and Charles Perry to prepare, if way opens for it, essays of replies to these letters and produce at a future sitting of this Meeting.

They are also encouraged to take into careful consideration the preparation of an Epistle to this Yearly Meeting.

The suffering condition of the Society of Friends of North Carolina being brought before the Meeting, at this time, the Committee are encouraged, if Truth opens the way, to prepare an Epistle to all those Friends of North Carolina who are striving to maintain our principles in their ancient truth and purity.

Charles Perry and James H. Tucker are appointed to prepare a summary of the answers to the queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

We appoint Arthur Perry and George H. Gifford to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the meeting as Clerk, and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk, for the ensuing year and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon,- met pursuant to adjournment
The names of the representatives being called
they were present as at our morning sitting.

Charles Perry on behalf of the
representatives, reported that they had
met and that they were united in proposing
the names of Bob S. Gidley for clerk and
Amos C. Foster for assistant clerk.

Their names being separately con-
sidered, both nominations were approved
and they are appointed for those services
respectively for the year ensuing, or till
others are appointed in their places

The records of the Meting for Sufferings
were read at this time and approved, and
it was concluded to appoint the following
Friends to constitute a Meting for Sufferings
for the ensuing year, the Womens Meting concurring
viz:- Jonathan Chase, Amos C. Foster, George C.
Foster, Charles Perry, Mary A. Gardner Anna
H. Chase, Lydia F. Nichols, James H. Tucker,
Bob S. Gidley, John T. Wilbur, George H. Gifford
Sarah F. Wilbur, Susanna W. Gidley and Jesse
R. Tucker.

The Queries were read at this
time with answers thereto from Rhode
Island and Sandwich Quarterly
Metings, and a summary having
been prepared by the Committee named
at our morning sitting, it was also read,
and the clerk is directed to record the same.

While considering the state of Society
as shown by the answers to the Queries,
bringing to light our many shortcomings,
we were brought into deep travail of spirit
and a close examination on account
of these deficiencies.

A precious canopy of God's love was spread over the Meeting and may it be an assurance to all that we are not forgotten by Him who is able to still the winds and the waves of every troubled soul if we will put our trust in Him. And may we all who are gathered here, take a more decided stand, during the coming year, if our lives are spared to be more steadfast in the maintenance of all our precious principles.

Adjourned to the third hour, Third-day afternoon, the 14th.

Third-day afternoon, about the time adjourned to, Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives, being called they were present as at our last sitting.

The committee appointed at our first sitting to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year made the following report:

To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee appointed to inspect the Treasurer's accounts, report that they have attended to that duty and find receipted vouchers for the expenditures and that the balance remaining in the Treasurer's hands is $1,174.68

They unite in recommending the appointment of George C. Foster as Treasurer for the year ensuing.

Arthur Perry
George Henry Gifford } Committee

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting and George C. Foster is appointed Treasurer for the ensuing year, or until another appointment.

The committee on Epistles have carefully considered the subjects referred to them and have produced Essays of Epistles to Ohio, Canada, Iowa, Western, and Kansas Yearly Meetings and to all those Friends of North Carolina who are striving to maintain our principles in their ancient truth and purity.

The Epistles prepared by the committee were read at this time and approved and the clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Ohio, Canada, Iowa, Western, and Kansas Yearly Meetings and to those Friends of North Carolina who are striving to maintain our principles in their ancient truth and purity.

The Book and Tract Committee have made the following report;

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting;

Attention has been given to the distribution of tracts the past year, though not so large a number was spread by some individuals as in some former years, but we hope those which have gone forth may have proved useful. Fifteen hundred pages were sent in parcels to the Town Asylum in Stonington and to the Home of the Friendless in New York City. Two hundred pages were placed in a box for use in the Rhode Island Hospital in Providence. One book and a number of Juvenile Tracts have been handed to several children of the Roman Catholic denomination which were gratefully received by the children and spoken of with commendation by parents and teachers. Quite a number of tracts of both kinds have also been sent or handed to different people as opportunity offered; and at different times thanks have been gratefully expressed.

One Friend has circulated a considerable number of Juvenile books among children, which have been eagerly sought after and very gratefully received among the Methodists.

There has been quite a quantity of books and tracts ordered from Friends' Book Store, Philadelphia, which have been paid for by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting and some of which have been placed in public libraries

Very Respectfully
G. C. Foster
On behalf of the Committee

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting and the following Friends, Viz:- George C. Foster, Job S. Gidley, James H. Lucker, Amos O. Foster, Frederic C. Buffum, Arthur Perry, Martha B. Sheffield, Anna H. Chase, Elizabeth C. Foster, Sarah F. Wilbur, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Emma A. F. Perry, Annie A. Gardner, and George H. Gifford are continued as a committee and they are encouraged to procure and distribute such Books and Tracts as in their judgment will best advance the cause of truth and righteousness, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred,

Our dear Friends Benjamin P. Brown and Jonathan E. Rhoads laid before this Meeting a concern to visit the Women's Meeting. After a time of deliberation thereon, it was united with, and they were left at liberty and encouraged to attend to the same, the Women's Meeting concurring.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting, both Men's and Women's also the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting

The care of printing of the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Charles Perry of Westerly, Rhode Island, and Job S. Gidley of N. Forth Dartmouth, Mass. are appointed Correspondents of this Meeting for the year ensuing.

The clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

The business claiming our attention has been conducted with dignity and in good order. A precious covering was over the various sittings of our Yearly Meeting and we were made to feel that God has not forgotten to be gracious inasmuch as He has sent His anointed servants amongst us proclaim the unsearchable riches of His love.

O may we each for himself remember that these favored seasons with which we have been blessed, are not of man neither by man; but they were brought to us by and through the power of God. And as we separate and return to our homes, may we treasure up in good and honest hearts the precious words of counsel and encouragement which we have heard, and let us double our diligence that we may make our calling and election sure.

We now conclude, purposing to meet at this place in the Sixth Month, next year, if consistent with the Divine will.

Job S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary of Answers to the Queries.

Answer 1st. All of our meetings on First-days have been held except one which was omitted on account of a severe storm, and have been attended by most of our members who were in suitable health; but there seems to be a need of a right concern on the part of some to keep up the attendance of mid-week meetings and those in discipline. The hour has been pretty well observed. But little appearance of sleeping. No other unbecoming behavior noticed.

Ans. 2nd. Love and unity are well maintained and detraction is guarded against. No differences have come to our knowledge.

Ans. 3rd. A concern rests with Friends to bring up those under their care in plainness, to guard them against reading pernicious literature, and to keep them from the corrupt conversation of the world. Some Friends are exemplary therein themselves, and we believe the Holy Scriptures are often read in Friends' families.

Ans. 4th. We think none of our members use spirituous liquors except in medicine, or unnecessarily frequent places of public resort; and that Friends keep in moderation and temperance on the occasions referred to in the query.

Ans. 5th. The circumstances of the poor are inspected and their necessities relieved. All children of school age attend the public schools.
No children placed from among Friends.

Ans. 6th. Parents and heads of families are concerned and endeavor to use some care that proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline.

Answer 7th Friends maintain a testimony against a paid ministry, although some of our members, at times, attend meetings where such ministry is sanctioned. We think Friends are clear in regard to the other parts of this query.

Ans. 8th We believe that Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, and they are punctual to their promises and just in the payment of their debts, and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9th Friends are careful to have their marriages, births, deaths and burials duly recorded. There have been no removals without certificates.

Ans. 10th Owing to our weak condition and small numbers some neglect is apparent in the observance of this query, although there is a concern to deal with offenders when necessary, but no judgment has been placed since our last account.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:

No written message containing words of love and good cheer from our dear Friends in Ohio to be read at our Yearly Meeting this year, were the thoughts arising in the minds of some of our members while coming from their homes to attend our Meeting. And when the Epistles from the other

Yearly Meetings within our circle were read in our assembly the accustomed letter from you was greatly missed.

The reason for not writing alluded to in a letter from another Yearly Meeting is worthy of serious consideration.

When the children of Israel were journeying from Egypt to the Promised Land unless the pillar of fire & cloud preceded them they did not go forward.

And we earnestly desire that all under our name may ever be on the watch and follow the unslumbering Shepherd of Israel as He may lead them.

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty saith the Psalmist. And the Spirit and the bride say come"; and when all shall hear this call, - give up their own will and submit to the Divine will, - come to Christ and be taught in His school, - and be so moulded and fashioned by Him that each one shall fill the place in the militant church that was designed for him then it becomes a perfect church.

Our beloved Society, we believe was established by dedicated servants of the Most High, who were instrumental in their day and generation in turning many unto righteousness and it was a place of refuge for those who were endeavoring to break away from the forms and customs of the world,

& its influence now for good, is less than in former years it behooves all who have its welfare at heart to be livingly engaged to "have a closer walk with God" and become again a united people.

The prophet Isaiah hath declared "Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice, with the voice together shall they sing; for they shall see eye to eye; when the Lord shall bring again Zion" And we earnestly desire that when the dawn of this brighter day shall break that all the sincere hearted under our name may be as desirous to follow the light of their Star as were the wise men of old, till they come to the place where Jesus is, & the only place where a living reunion can take place.

"Depart not from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father" was the last commandment of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ before His ascension,

And when Friends all become obedient to this command and wait for the promised power will not our Society again be brought into the unity of spirit and the bond of peace?

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends:-

What your last letter contained concerning the dear youth in attendance of your Yearly Meeting touched a responsive cord in our hearts; for it is very encouraging to know that the dear young people in the different parts of the Lords heritage are earnestly endeavoring to follow Him who said "I am the true vine and my Father is the husbandman, Every branch in me that beareth not fruit He taketh away; and every branch that beareth fruit He purgeth it that it may bring forth more fruit"

O may the dear youth among you and us ever abide in this Vine drawing nourishment therefrom and become living branches

"that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified".

The Psalmist hath written, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth fruit in his season; his leaf shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper".

And we desire that you as well as ourselves may endeavor to live so near to God that these words of the Psalmist will be verified in our own experience; and then we shall be able to keep the commandment of Christ Jesus wherein he says "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven"

Writing epistles to our distant brethren may be one of the ways by which we may keep this commandment. One who had been with Christ Jesus could write, "Come have fellowship with us, for truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ; And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full".

This encouraging message from the beloved disciple implies that writing kindly letters is a part of a christians duty.

It is a great satisfaction to receive these yearly greetings from those who are of the same household of faith with us, and the reading of them at our Yearly Meetings are interesting and profitable seasons; and our earnest prayer to God for our Israel is that all Friends who are striving to maintain our precious principles may be brought into the unity of spirit and bond of peace, then the circle of our correspondence will be enlarged.

And Friends becoming more thoroughly united would exert a greater influence for good.

Several Friends from other Yearly Meetings are with us at this time who have proclaimed the blessed truths of the gospel in demonstration of Spirit and of power, to our edification and comfort, and we crave that the seed sown during the sittings of our Yearly Meeting may sink deep into our hearts and bring forth fruit to the glory of God.

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:-

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings, in heavenly places in Christ" These words arise in our hearts, dear Friends, unworthy as we are; for our little Meeting has been made sensible of the Divine covering, and our Heavenly Father has manifested His tender and gracious care by sending His messengers from distant parts to labor in this small vineyard. Our spiritual life has been quickened and strengthened by the epistles of love and admonition which have been received from you and from other Yearly Meetings, until we are ready to exclaim with the Apostle, "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things." Nor have we been permitted to forget that other word, "How shall they preach except they are sent?" and our minds have been turned to Him who alone can speak to our condition.

And thus we humbly believe that some among us have been privileged individually to experience, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit,

the direct and individual ministry of our Great High Priest, "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

As we have been sensible of this, and of the desire to magnify and exalt His holy name, we have come under a lively conviction of our own shortcomings and unworthiness; and yet at this very time we would exclaim with the Psalmist, "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together."

We crave for you and for us, that we may be kept as in the hollow of His hand, that in true humility of spirit, we may worship at His feet, and "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

To Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends:-

Your epistle has been received and read together with those received from the other Yearly Meetings with which we correspond. The reading of them has been very comforting and encouraging to us; causing us to feel that there are those who although their habitations may be in widely separated localities, yet are near and dear to us in that bond of love which is the heritage of all who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit.

We are gathered under a sense of our inability of ourselves to do anything for the advancement of our Redeemers Kingdom in the earth, except by being obedient to His will, which is manifested in our hearts by His Spirit so bountifully bestowed upon us that we may not walk in darkness but by His Light which will show us the way that has been cast up for the ransomed and redeemed to walk in.

A advancement in those things that are

for the welfare of all mankind is not to be obtained by the struggle that is carried on by neighbor rising up against neighbor in the mines or on the field of battle, but by doing unto others as we would that they should do unto us.

The horrors of the warfare which is now being carried on between grasping and ambitious nations, and the lawless strikes with their attendant evils in our own land make it sadly apparent that there is yet much to be desired in the way of peace and righteousness in the world. May we all be enabled to bear a faithful testimony against all controversies both by precept and example, endeavoring to live at peace not only among ourselves but with all men as becomes our high profession.

The reading of the Queries with the answers thereto has brought to view some things, that we wish could be removed. Most of these deficiencies seem to result from a want of true spiritual life.

O may we have a closer walk with God that we may make our calling and election sure. Our sojourn here in this life is but for a short time and may we so live that at its close the change may be with joy and not with sorrow.

We have the company of several Friends from other Yearly Meetings whose company and gospel labors have been comforting to us.

The Meeting was brought under deep exercise, and earnest counsel flowed freely under the influence of the precious covering that was felt to be over us. And a hope and trust have arisen that their labors may not be in vain and that they may receive the reward that our Master promises to those who faithfully serve Him.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting of Friends,

Dear Friends:-

Your acceptable epistle of the Tenth month last has been received and read in our Meeting. The sessions of our little Meeting this year have been seasons of refreshing and comfort to us. The presence and gospel labor among us of several of the Lord's messengers from other Yearly Meetings have been an encouragement to us to hold on our course and our hands which hung down, have received some renewal of strength to labor on and endeavor, as ability is afforded to still keep alive the fire upon the altar. This is a time of outward prosperity.

The people of the world, many of them, to be waxing gross and their ears dull of hearing. Some of the nations who profess Christianity, appear to be reaching forth to parcel among themselves the lands of heathen nations. Wars are waged in various parts, and there appears a tendency on the part of some to a partisan feeling for one side or the other. We feel for ourselves as well as for all the brethren wherever situated a jealous care that we seek for Divine help to give ability to maintain our testimony against war in such a way as shall tend to the healing of the nations, and the promotion of the cause of righteousness in the earth. That we may seek for true humility with a spirit of power and of love toward all on either side.

And in this our highly favored land where nature has lavished her bounties and Divine Providence has poured out his blessings abundantly, where we are blessed with religious freedom and exemption from the oppressions of sacerdotalism which weigh heavily upon many in other countries even in this day, is there not a declension, and growing spirit of worldliness

and disregard of a wholesome care and restraint in their daily walk and conversation even of many professing the name of Christians, a breaking down of hedges, a recession from spirituality to formalism, a lowering of testimonies, a compromise and letting in again of forms and terms derived from heathen religions of the past, out of which their forefathers had come through great suffering and tribulation? We have been renewedly awakened at this time to the importance of being watchful unto prayer that we may be preserved from error on the right hand and on the left.

We have been clipped into much exercise and sympathy for those members of different branches professing the name of Friends who are brought under suffering on account of departures by their fellow members in both practice and profession.

We do fully believe that those precious doctrines and testimonies set forth by our early Friends are primitive Christianity revived.

The light of Christ shining in the heart which hath appeared unto all men (by which if we follow it we shall be led into all truth) and a free Gospel ministry are as precious to us in this day as ever they were. We believe these to be a great and important part of the faith once delivered unto the saints and if any deny or abate from them they have thereby departed from the truth.

Earnest supplications have been raised to the throne of grace that we may stand steadfast in the truth as it is in Jesus.

Dear Friends, let us not forget the sufferings and sacrifices with which our early Friends purchased for us the many exemptions and blessings which we now live under.

Let us not forget our allegiance, but remember the source from which all blessings flow both spiritual and temporal.

Our prayer is for ourselves and for all under our name that the Lord will keep us and preserve us as in the hollow of His hand; that He will us and you in the paths of His righteousness; deliver us from evil and lead us not into temptation.

With the love that knoweth no bounds, we are your friends.

To all those Friends in North Carolina who are striving to maintain our principles in their ancient truth and purity.

Dear Friends:-

As the love of God shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit given unto us we would address you, desiring that you with us and we with you may be enabled to hold up the banner of Truth in all its purity before our fellow men. And our earnest prayer to God for you is, that He will draw you together by the drawing cords of His love into one united company, gathered with one accord worshipping Him in the beauty of holiness with none to molest or make afraid.

The prophet Malachi hath declared "But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings and ye shall go forth and grow up as calves of the stall" "Draw nigh unto God and He will draw nigh unto you" and comfort you establish you in the most holy faith" and bring you out more than conquerors through Him who loves you.

We feel to encourage you to faithfulness to every pointing of the Spirit of Truth in the performance

of duty and to let love be without dissimulation.

We have the promise "Touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters saith the Lord Almighty"

At our New England Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England held at Westerly, Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meeting for worship on First Day, the 11th of Sixth Month, 1905, and Second Day the 12th with those for Discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting, viz:-

From Rhode Island Quarter- Charles Perry, Arthur Perry, Amos C. Foster, and Harvey C. Perry.

From Sandwich Quarter- Jesse R. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, and James H. Tucker, whose names being called, they are present except one.

Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting informs this Meeting that Charles Perry, Elizabeth P. Foster, and Mary J. Foster are appointed to the station of Elder.

Our dear Friend Eli H. Harvey attended this Meeting with a Minute from West Union Monthly Meeting of Friends, held near Monrovia, Morgan County, Indiana, Eighth Month 10th 1904, endorsed by White Lick Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held near Monrovia, Morgan County, Indiana, Eighth Month 13th 1904, and by Western Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, held Tenth Month 4th 1904, liberating him to visit in the love of the gospel, the Yearly Meetings of Ohio, New England, Canada and Philadelphia and

a portion of the meetings composing them as way opens; also to attend meetings and visit Friends in North Carolina and to attend to such other religious service as Truth calls for, while in the prosecution of the visit.

The company and labor of love of our dear Friend Eli H. Harvey named in the foregoing Minute have been comforting and encouraging to us, and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a returning Minute and sign it on our behalf.

Our dear Friend Ezra Barker attended this Meeting with a Minute from Westfield Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Westfield, Indiana, Eleventh Month 19th 1904, as companion of Eli H. Harvey, a minister of West Union Monthly Meeting of Friends, while in course of a religious visit to the Yearly Meetings of Ohio, New England, Philadelphia and Canada and the meetings composing them, and the Friends of North Carolina and other meetings as Truth calls for.

The company, religious labor and solid deportment of our dear Friend Ezra Barker mentioned in the foregoing Minute have been very satisfactory to us, and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a returning Minute and sign it on our behalf.

We have received and read, at this time, Epistles from Ohio, Western, Iowa, Kansas, Canada and North Carolina Yearly Meetings, full of tender love and good cheer. They were comforting and encouraging.

A Committee was appointed to prepare, if way opens for it, ways of replies to these letters, and produce them at a future sitting of this Meeting. Jonathan Chace, Job S. Tiddy, Arthur Perry, James H. Tucker, Charles Perry and George H. Gifford being chosen.

Arthur Perry and George H. Gifford are appointed to prepare a summary of the answers to the queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

We appoint James H. Tucker and Amos O. Foster to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the meeting as Clerk, and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk, for the ensuing year and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon, met pursuant to adjournment. The names of the representatives being called they were all present.

Charles Perry, on behalf of the representatives, reported that they had met and they were united in proposing the names of Job S. Gidley for clerk and Amos O. Foster for assistant clerk. Their names being separately considered, both nominations were approved and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year, or till others are appointed in their places.

The proposition that joint sessions for business of Men and Women Friends be held by Rhode Island Quarterly and South Kingstown Monthly Meetings coming before the Yearly Meeting at this time, after a careful consideration thereon it was united with and it is recommended to these meetings for their consideration; the Womens Meeting concurring herein.

The records of the Meetings for Sufferings were read at this time and approved, and it was concluded to appoint the following Friends

to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, the Women's Meeting concurring.

Jonathan Chace, Amos O. Foster, Charles Perry, Mary A. Gardner, Anna H. Chace, Lydia F. Nichols, James H. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, George H. Gifford, Sarah F. Wilbur, Susanna W. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker and Elizabeth P. Foster.

The Queries were read at this time with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings, and a summary having been prepared by the Committee named at our morning sitting, it was also read and the clerk is directed to record the same.

The committee appointed at our first sitting to examine the account of the Treasurer of this meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, made the following report:

To the Yearly Meeting;

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's account have attended to that service and find there has been paid from the treasury $174.68 and $40.40 have been received.

The balance remaining is $1,040.40.

They unite in recommending the appointment of Harvey C. Perry as Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Amos O. Foster
James H. Tucker } Committee.

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is appointed Treasurer for the ensuing year, or until another appointment.

Adjourned to the third hour,
Third Day afternoon the 13th

Third Day afternoon, about the time adjourned to, Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called, they were present as at our first sitting.

The Epistles prepared by the committee were read at this time and approved and the clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to this, Canada, Iowa, Western, Kansas, and North Carolina Yearly Meetings.

A verbal report was made by two of the Book and Tract Committee that a considerable number of books and tracts have been distributed during the year.

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting and the following Friends James H. Tucker, Amos C. Foster, Frederic C. Ruffum, Arthur Perry, Anna H. Chace, Elizabeth P. Foster, Emma A. F. Perry Anna A. Gardner, and George H. Gifford are continued as a committee and they are encouraged to procure and distribute such books and tracts as in their judgment will best advance the cause of Truth and righteousness, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting, both Men's and Women's also the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting.

The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Charles Perry of Westerly Rhode Island, and Job S. Gidley of North Dartmouth, Mass., are appointed correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes

of this Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

The various sittings of our Yearly Meeting were felt to be seasons of Divine favor.

We were earnestly entreated to hold fast that we have that no man take our crown, and we were reminded that God will not reign in a divided heart, and that we should not spend too much strength in endeavoring to obtain those things which minister only to earthly lusts and thus make a divided kingdom of our hearts, but we should keep our eye single to Him who is more powerful than all the isms of the world and will give us strength to become valiant standard bearers for the Truth; for "Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord".

The sight of the dear young people revives the language, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them".

Rather let them strengthen the hands of the nursing fathers and mothers in our Israel; for neither angels, nor principalities, nor powers, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, who is alone the Rock of Ages.

We cannot show to the world true Quakerism without manifesting that we ourselves believe in the principles which we profess. It is easy to give way a little here and a little there, thinking that these little things do not make a difference; but we should strive to be faithful in what have been called minor testimonies.

The world still has need of our principles for which our forefathers suffered many things, obtaining for us those privileges

which many of us seem to hold in too little esteem. On the other hand, we trust there are those who can truly exclaim "Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are all thy ways, thou King of Saints"

Having been permitted to transact the business coming before this meeting in much harmony, we now conclude, purposing to meet at this place in the Sixth Month, next year, if consistent with the Divine will.

Jos. S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary of Answers to the Queries.

Answer 1st. Meetings for worship on First Days have been generally held. Two were omitted on account of stormy weather, and one to enable Friends to attend a funeral. Several mid-week meetings have been omitted. Those for business have been held with three or four exceptions.

The hour has been observed by most Friends. But little appearance of sleeping and no other unbecoming behavior noticed

Answer 2nd. Love and unity are in a good degree maintained, and detraction guarded against.

No differences have come to our knowledge.

Answer 3rd. Some Friends are careful to bring up those under their direction in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel, to restrain them from pernicious reading and corrupt conversation, and we believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in our families.

Answer 4th. Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine, and the unnecessary

frequenting of places of public resort, and endeavor to keep in moderation and temperance as to the other subjects queried after.

Answer 5th — There are none need of pecuniary aid, and no children have been placed from among Friends.

Answer 6th — Parents and heads of families have a concern with the young and unmarried, that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline. One case of marrying out has come to our attention.

Answer 7th — Friends maintain a testimony against a paid ministry, but some members attend meetings where a paid ministry is exercised. Friends bear a testimony against the several other matters referred to in the query.

Answer 8th Friends appear to be careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances, to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts; and we trust they are punctual to their promises and just in the payment of their debts.

Answer 9th We believe marriages, births, deaths and burials are duly recorded. None removed from or come among us without certificates.

Answer 10th — Friends have a concern to deal with offenders as our discipline requires, but no judgment that have been placed since our last account.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings

To Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends,

Dear Friends:-

We feel we can truly number among the many evidences of Divine favor vouchsafed to us

At this our annual assembly, the reading of communications from other bodies of Friends on this Continent, who are concerned to walk by the same Light, and maintain their purity, the same ancient testimonies as were our early Friends. And in particular do we desire to respond to the burden of concern set forth in your acceptable epistle of 9th month last, that Friends should be careful at all times to "walk in the Light" and in an especial manner should we when assembled in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting keep the eye single to the Great Head of the Church, That we should not put forth a hand to touch the Ark unbidden. That we may indeed wait to be visited and endued with the Day Spring from on high, and realize a putting forth and going before of His Holy Spirit in all the affairs of the church.

Dear Friends, our earnest desire and prayer is for ourselves and for all under our name that we may be faithful to the "manifestations of the Spirit" which is given to every man to profit withal," "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body"

Oh, for more dedication and faithfulness, a more careful walk, listening to the inspeaking Word that whatever we do in word or deed, we do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. That we may not be over careful of earthly things but seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. That we may all be fellow workers unto the Kingdom of God "faithful in all things,

Then indeed may we hope to see the church come up again out of the wilderness like an army with banners and the people gathering like doves to the windows.

In this day of great outward prosperity

when the number of those who seem concerned to walk in the ancient way appear to be dwindling year by year, we have remembered what the Apostle Paul wrote of the intercession of Elias - that the answer of God was "I have reserved to myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal.

We believe there are up and down many of His faithful little ones who do not turn away their ears from the truth and are willing to endure affliction for the present time and to be slammed of men for the greater hope of that crown which the Lord the righteous Judge has laid up for all those who love His appearing.

Bowed stripped and humbled as we are we have been a little renewed and encouraged by the overshadowing of the Divine Presence during the sittings of this Yearly Meeting.

Our hearts have also been made glad and we have been strengthened by the words of exhortation, admonition and encouragement which have been handed forth to our edification during the various sittings of the meeting.

Renewed aspirations have been raised in our hearts that we may be given strength to follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart,

With the salutation of love we are your friends.

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:-

Our Yearly Meeting has gathered under a renewed sense of dependence upon the Most High; and unworthy as we are, we have to acknowledge with full hearts His overshadowing presence and His anointing and baptising power.

We are few in numbers, but "Those who would see wonderful things must often be ready to travel alone" And yet we ought to long with

the zeal of early Friends to have a great body of men and women acknowledge the truth.

Numbers are not necessary, but that church which is content to dwindle, bears no burning testimony and does not reach out for individual lives. George Fox, Stephen Grellet, John Woolman and other consecrated servants were filled with a longing for the eternal welfare of many; and we, if we are to grow in grace and in power must have our hearts enlarged to all sorts and conditions of men.

This may not be in our own power. "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" were the words to the disciples, but it is clear that the result of tarrying was to be an endowment not a going away empty handed.

Did not the Prophet declare that "they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength?"

If a renewal of strength does not follow our waiting before the Lord, then there has been a deadness instead of a living exercise of the inner man and an opening of the door of the heart to Him who stands and knocks.

Silence as well as oral ritual may be a mere form — neither is effective in itself.

It is when the individual members in our meetings are under deep exercise in communion and prayer that there is a Divine covering, an inshining light that convicts and convinces, humbles and uplifts, even without a spoken words, and hearts overflow even as from vessel to vessel. Searching testimony and a living ministry may spring up in such a gathering. We fail to write this for our own and your encouragement, to stir us up to good works and to deeper devotion to Him to whom we owe all that

we have and from whom we must receive all that we are to have, - never satisfied with spiritual growth attained, striving ever more and more to be made willing to do His will until we do it and others seeing "your good works shall glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

We have been encouraged and strengthened by the presence of Friends from your own Yearly Meeting. We greet you, brethren in the living faith, grateful for your fellowship with us and earnestly craving a rich blessing may rest upon us all. May we be kept in true humility of spirit, and yet courageous and full of hope in the realization that the Lord of hosts is with us. May we all grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ"

To Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends;

Stripped and peeled, cast down, but not destroyed is the feeling that comes over us as we are gathered once more in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting.

The sifting still continues in this part of the Lords heritage. Four of our members have been removed by death during the past year and we are led to exclaim "By whom shall Jacob arise for he is small?" But we are comforted with the declaration "God can save by few as well as by many" And if we may not understand the reason for all the turnings and the overturnings of the hand of Omnipotence, we have the blessed assurance that "The foundation of God standeth sure the Lord knoweth them that are his"

We are thankful also for the prayers of our Friends remembering that "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much"

And we would that the example, left for us by the Apostles of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ immediately after his ascension, in holding their first meeting in which "all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication" might be followed by all under our name; for were this the case we feel sure this beatitude of our Savior would be fulfilled, "Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled" Yea verily - filled with that power which would enable the members of our Society to stand upon the true foundation of Christianity and thereby exert that influence for good in the world for which it was called into existence.

Our Savior saith "Ye are my Friends if ye do whatsoever I command you" Let us then be willing to do what we may to hasten that better day alluded to by the Prophet when war shall be no more.

We believe this better day is near at hand unless God's will is frustrated by fear or unfaithfulness on the part of those who are to begin the work.

"Peace I leave with you my peace I give unto you not as the world giveth give I unto you" should not be lost sight of by those who are desiring to promote the cause of peace and good will among men.

The Secretary of the Board of Education of Massachusetts took a firm stand on behalf of peace when he recommended that all the public schools of the State have appropriate exercises on the anniversary of the Hague Conference, for the purpose of emphasising the blessing of peace, of showing the superiority of arbitration over war, and exalting

the brotherhood of nations" His suggestions were carried out and we hope will be productive of much good.

The state of society shown by the answers to the queries, is far from what we would desire and we would that all of us while the queries and answers are being read might turn our thoughts inward, drawing nigh to God desiring that he will strengthen each one of us, that if our lives are spared for another year there will be an improvement.

But we realize that unless this concern is made an individual work, but little change for the better will be realized. Oh may we and you take these things under prayerful consideration.

The presence of visiting Friends from another Yearly Meeting, is an evidence, we think, that we are still remembered by our Heavenly Father, for which we trust we are sufficiently thankful.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:-

We have again been drawn together by the holding of our Yearly Meeting and the reading of the Epistles from your Yearly Meeting and the other with which we correspond has awakened in our minds a fresh realization, that we are not alone though few in numbers.

All of the Epistles received this year seemed to breathe the spirit of brotherhood in a remarkable degree, and they have been comforting and strengthening to us.

We have the company of two dear friends from away, whose presence and labors have been comforting and encouraging. The language of the Psalmist has been brought to mind,

"The young lions do lack and suffer hunger but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing"; and the desire has arisen that we may be enabled to live in a humble and contrite spirit, so that we shall be found dwelling under the shadow of His wing.

It is a great privilege to live free from the trials and perplexities of a worldly life, seeking only to do the will of our Heavenly Father, receiving strength and ability from Him to perform it,

For here we have no continuing city, and when the summons comes may we all hear the language "Well done, good and faithful servant enter thou into the joy of thy Lord"

Desires have arisen that the youth both with you and with us may be led to seek after that way that shall lead them from the fading things of this world; to those things that shall endure forever; for these are the true riches, the pearl of great price that brings joy and peace to the soul and no sorrow; may they be persuaded by that indwelling and saving Light to choose the way that leads to an unending day; and to flee from that which brings disappointment, fear, and the just reward of disobedience,

May we be diligent while the day lasts, for the night cometh wherein no man can work, nor return to improve upon that which has already passed.

With a salutation of love we remain your friends,

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends,

Dear Friends;-

As we are assembled once more in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting our hearts go out to you in tender love and

sympathy; for we are only a handful of worshipers endeavoring, as ability is given by our loving Heavenly Father, to keep up a Friends Yearly Meeting in this part of His heritage. And if we are faithful in doing what is required at our hands, we believe we shall know of this promise being fulfilled; "Fear not little flock for it is your Fathers good pleasure to give you the kingdom". And we feel that this is not a kingdom pertaining to this world, but an everlasting inheritance and communion with the ransomed and redeemed of the Lord.

There have been four removals by death since our Meeting here a year ago; We greatly miss them as our number is very small indeed.

The state of society as shown by the answers to the queries reminds us that we have nothing to boast of except our many weaknesses and short comings.

Oh may we, at the times when the queries with their answers are being read in our meetings individually, enter into our closet, and when we have shut the door of the heart against all outward things, pray to our Father who is in secret craving that He will reward us openly by giving us strength so to depart ourselves that our sins of omission and commission may be lessened.

And that you may be strengthened in these respects as well as ourselves is our earnest prayer; and we crave that our Heavenly Father will in his condescending love and goodness grant our feeble petition.

We feel grateful for your prayers on our behalf. Friends from another Yearly Meeting being with us, at this time, gives us good cheer. Their presence and words of tender love and sympathy are indeed comforting to our drooping spirits.

May peace and prosperity in best things be their portion.

And now with grateful hearts, we feel to render thanksgiving and praise to the God of all our sure mercies inasmuch as Hee has been pleased to remember us during the various sittings of our Yearly Meting by overshadowing us by His wing of ancient goodness, which was felt to be over us and which enabled us to transact, in much harmony the various duties for which we were called together.

To North Carolina Yearly Meting of Friends,

Dear Friends:

When your interesting Epistle of the Tenth Month last was read in our Yearly Meeting informing us that you had withdrawn from High Point and had set up a Yearly Meeting at Cedar Grove, we were thankful that another Yearly Meeting is to be added to those within our little circle; and we feel to extend to you the right hand of fellowship, with a desire that we all may be builded up together upon that sure foundation of which Christ Jesus is the chief corner stone; and that we may more fully realize "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity"

We crave that God will enable you and us to stand firm in the maintenance of true Quakerism.

"Incline your ear" saith the Prophet, "and come unto me, hear, and your soul shall live, and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David"

When after this manner we put our entire dependence upon God from whom all our spiritual strength comes, and wait upon Him in the silence of all flesh, Hee will,

we believe, in His own good time condescend to our low estate and feed us with the bread and water of life that we may be refreshed and strengthened for the work whereunto He hath called us.

Oh that all of the meetings under our name might be held more in accord with that memorable meeting held by the Apostles immediately after the ascension of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Who could attend such a meeting without obtaining spiritual strength?

You have given the names of a few worthies who had labored in North Carolina and who have left around you a sweet savor of life. Surely a greater responsibility rests upon you on account of their faithfulness; for from him to whom much has been given, from him much shall be required.

When we are made willing to gird on the whole armor of God which the Apostle has alluded to in his Epistle to the Ephesians, there will certainly be a growth in grace and in the knowledge of God. We desire that this may be the case both with us and with you.

When we are ready to deny self, take up the cross daily and follow a crucified and risen Lord whithersoever He may lead us, we verily believe that we shall be equipped for the service whereunto our God hath called us, workmen that need not be ashamed, even made worthy to fill the places of such as you have named, and there is no other way to gain the crown than by the cross of Christ.

Your allusion to the faithfulness of Friends during the Civil War reminded us of the labors of John Woolman in regard to slavery.

And although slavery has been done away with; the question how to remove the bitter feeling between the two races is worthy of serious consideration. God is not wanting on His part to qualify laborers for such service;

and it may be that He will raise up and equip some among you to labor outside of our Society and improve that part of His heritage.

Surely we all, are children of one common Father; for He "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth"

And if we follow the instructions of Him who teaches as never man taught, we shall be instrumental in some degree in the improvement of the world.

We are pleased to learn that there are so many children belonging to your Yearly Meeting; for they are the well springs of the family and of meetings also.

May you be enabled to give them a guarded education: and may they become strong men and strong women, valiant standard bearers in the army of the Lord, being so moulded and fashioned by the Divine Teacher that they may all fill the places designed for them in the militant church.

With love to all we are your friends.

1906 At our New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly, Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First Day, the 10th of Sixth Month, 1906 and Second Day the 11th with those for discipline,

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting, viz:

From Rhode Island Quarter, Charles Perry-
From Sandwich Quarter- Job S. Gidley, George L. Kilham, George H. Gifford and James H. Tucker, whose names being called, they are present except one.

Our beloved Friend Benjamin N. Hoag attended this Meeting with a Minute from Pickering Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Pickering, Ontario Canada, Fifth Month 11th 1904, endorsed by George Neal from Monthly Meeting held at Markham, Ontario, Canada, Ninth Month, 24th 1904, and by the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders held at Pickering, Ontario, Canada, the 22d of Sixth Month, 1905, to visit in the love of the Gospel the meetings of conservative Friends in North Carolina, parts of Maryland and Virginia; also the meetings belonging to Western Yearly Meeting and New England Yearly Meetings and the conservative Friends in the State of New York, and for such further service as may be called for as Best Wisdom may direct, he being a minister in unity.

The company and labor of love of our beloved Friend Benjamin N. Hoag named in the foregoing Minute, have been encouraging comforting and strengthening to us and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a returning Minute and sign it in our behalf.

Our beloved Friend Ella. Tomlin attended this Meeting with a Minute from Bear Creek Monthly Meeting of Friends of Iowa, held Fifth Month 17th 1906, endorsed by Bear Creek Quarterly Meeting of Friends held near Paulina, Iowa Fifth Month 26th 1906, liberating her to visit in gospel love Ten England and Canada Yearly Meetings of Friends and a part or all of the Meetings composing them and other service as Truth opens the way, she being a minister in unity.

The company and labor of love of our beloved Friend Ella. Tomlin, named in the foregoing Minute, have been helpful, encouraging and strengthening to us and the clerk is directed to sign such a returning Minute as Women Friends may prepare.

Our beloved Friend, Abner L. Tomlin attended this Meeting with a Minute from a committee of Bear Creek Quarterly Meeting of Friends of Iowa, as companion to accompany his wife on her proposed religious visit, he being a member in good unity.

The solid deportment and labor of love of our beloved Friend Abner L. Tomlin, named in the foregoing Minute, have been very acceptable to us and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a returning Minute and sign it on our behalf.

Arthur Terry and George H. Gifford are appointed to prepare a summary of the answers to the queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

We appoint Jesse K. Tucker and Amos C. Hobbs to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We have received and read at this time acceptable Epistles from Canada, Western Iowa, Kansas, Ohio and South

Carolina Yearly Meeting, replete with love and good will, and we appoint for this Choice Job S. Gidley Arthur, Perry, Lewis M. Lucas, Isaac C. Gifford and Charles Perry to prepare, as may open for it, ways of replies to these letters and have them at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk, and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk, for the ensuing year and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Afternoon, met pursuant to adjournment. {The names of the representatives being called they were present as at our morning sitting.

Charles Perry, on behalf of the representatives, reported that they had met and that they were united in proposing the name of Job S. Gidley for Clerk and Amos C. Foster for Assistant Clerk. Their names being separately considered, both nominations were approved and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year, or till others are appointed in their places.

The Queries were read at this time with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Eastern Quarterly Meetings, and a summary having been prepared by the Committee named at our morning sitting, it was also read and the clerk is directed to record the same.

The company, solid deportment, and labor of love of our beloved Friends Thomas C. Hoyle and Thomas Fisher, members of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting have been acceptable and comforting to us.

Adjourned to the third hour, Third Day afternoon.

Third Day afternoon, about the hour adjourned to Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called they were present as at our last sitting.

The proposition to hold our Yearly Meeting one week earlier coming before the Meeting at this time, it was very fully united with and it being concurred in by the Women's Meeting, the time for holding our Yearly Meeting hereafter will be on the Seventh Day after the first Sixth Day in the Sixth Month.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved, and it was concluded to appoint the following Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, the Women's Meeting concurring, viz:- Jonathan Chace, Amos C. Foster, Charles Perry, Mary A. Gardner, Anna H. Chace, Lydia F. Nichols, James H. Tucker, Joel J. Gidley, George H. Gifford, Sarah F. Wilbur, Susanna W. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Elizabeth P. Foster, and Mary P. Foster.

The committee appointed at our first sitting to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer, make the following report:

To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's account have attended to that service and find the account has been correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed and find a balance on hand of one thousand one hundred and ninety eight dollars and forty three cents ($1,198.43) They unite in recommending the appointment of Harvey C. Perry, Jesse R. Tucker } Committee
as Treasurer for the ensuing Anna C. Foster }
year.

Signed

Which is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is appointed treasurer for the year ensuing, or until another appointment.

The essays of Epistles prepared by the committee were read at this time and approved and the clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Ohio, Canada Yearly, Western, Kansas and North Carolina Yearly Meetings.

Jonathan Chace, Robert G. Tilley and Charles Perry are named as a committee to unite with the following named friends from the Women's Meeting, viz:- Lydia H. Nichols, Henry B. Foster and Susanna W. Tilley, in the consideration of the holding of our Yearly Meeting of Men and Women Friends in joint sessions, and they are to report at the opening of our Yearly Meeting next year.

A verbal report by members of the Book and Tract Committee, that a few books and tracts had been distributed during the year, which is satisfactory to the Meeting and George H. Gifford, Emma H. Tucker, Robert Tilley, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Charles Perry, Elizabeth P. Foster, Emma H. Chace, Sarah F. Wilbur, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Emma A. F. Perry, and Anna A. Gardner, are appointed a committee for Women's Meeting concurring, and they are encouraged to procure and distribute such books and tracts, as in their judgment, will best advance the cause of Truth and righteousness, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense incurred thereby.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting, both Men's and Women's, also the Epistles received from the Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting.

The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

Charles Perry of Westerly, Rhode Island and Job S. Gidley of North Dartmouth, Mass are appointed correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The various sittings of our Yearly Meeting were felt to be precious seasons of Divine favor, and in love unto spirit we would render thanksgiving to the Father of all our sure mercies for His watchful care over us, and for the words of counsel and encouragement which His messengers, who are with us from other Yearly Meetings, have been enabled to proclaim unto us in the demonstration of the spirit and of power.

Having been permitted to transact the business coming before the Meeting in harmony, we conclude, purposing to meet at this place the Seventh Day after the first Sixth Day in the Sixth Month next year, if consistent with the Divine Will.

Job S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary of Answers to the Queries.

Answer 1st. All our meetings, both for religious worship and discipline have been held and attended on First Days by the larger part of our members. Mid-week meetings and those for discipline are much neglected by a few. Some appearance of slumber when assembled. No other unbecoming behavior noticed.

Answer 2nd. Love and unity are maintained in a good degree and detraction is guarded against. No differences have been brought to our notice.

Answer 3rd. Some Friends are concerned to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel, to restrain them from pernicious reading and corrupt conversation, and to be good examples therein themselves; yet more care is needful in these respects.

We believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends' families.

Answer 4th. We think that the use of spirituous liquors is avoided except for medicine, and that Friends are careful to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort, and that they observe moderation and temperance on most occasions.

Answer 5th. There are none needing pecuniary assistance. No children are placed from among Friends.

Answer 6th. Some want of care is apparent that proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to discipline.

Answer 7th. There are some of our members who at times attend meetings where there is a paid ministry. We believe Friends are clear in the other parts of this query.

Answer 9th. Friends are careful to have all marriages, births, deaths and burials duly recorded; and care is taken about removal certificates.

Answer 10th. A care rests with Friends to deal with offenders when necessary as discipline requires, but owing to our weakness and small numbers a neglect is apparent in these respects.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

The reading of your last Epistle was like a brook by the way, and in the words of the Psalmist we can say to you. "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

How often, then, should we look unto our Father in heaven for strength to walk together in that "precious unity" which you have spoken of. And those in the younger walks of life, how necessary it is for them to ponder on the saying "What I do thou knowest not now but thou shalt know hereafter."

Youth is apt to be impatient, and become discouraged because the result of good thoughts and actions do not seem so speedy or so good as they had expected.

This is because our vision is only finite. We need to remember very often that there is a higher purpose that works through us, and we should seek, more and more, to make our wills one with this Divine Power. The results are not for our human minds to measure, because whoever may plant or water it is God who giveth the increase.

There is another kind of self-seeking that we need to avoid. It may be that we do not ask to see the results of our service, but that we are working in the Master's vineyard with too much thought of our own personal reward.

There is a higher service than this, and it is a service to which young people, with all the strength and courage which God has given them, should be glad to devote their lives.

It is a service which means working because it is our duty, which means living for our neighbor's sake rather than for our own,

which realizes that the highest privilege for work well done is the ability to do more and better work for Him who hath made us Heirs of His heritage. "Thou hast been faithful over a few things I will make thee ruler over many things, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord and into thy Master's rest."

What do these words mean? Do the joy of the Lord a passive joy? Do the Master's rest the mere reward of toil? Surely not.

This is far more than such conception of joy. To become one with the highest Power in the universe must mean an increased ability to labor in the service of that Power to whom we pray "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

And we earnestly desire that you as well as ourselves may grow in grace and in the knowledge of God. The Beloved Disciple hath written "Hereby we do know that we know Him if we keep His commandments."

Oh may this ever be our chief concern.

A few Friends from other Yearly Meetings have been with us at this time, which we feel is a token of Gods love.

To Iowa Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:-

We do feel at this time to address you in the love of the everlasting Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, who told his disciples when he was personally with them "I will not leave you comfortless I will come unto you". And we feel that our Heavenly Father, in His goodness and tender mercy to us and, overshadowed us with the canopy of His love during the various sittings of our Yearly Meeting, although through no merit of our own, for we feel that we are poor, weak, and unworthy of the least of His benefit-

When Lou when your Epistle of Tenth Month last was read in our Meeting together with the others within our circle, containing words of tender love and sympathy, they reached the witness for Truth in our hearts, and the time of reading them was indeed a precious season.

When such letters are written with the love of God in the heart, the fear of their "becoming formal" as you wrote in your last letter to us, will be removed, for the love of God casteth out all fear.

Oh, may all of us who are of the same household of faith heed the command of our Savior "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem till ye are endued with power from on high." For with this promised power letters may be written that most assuredly will be helpful to the recipients of them.

We are thankful also that our Father in Heaven prepared the way for two of the members of your Yearly Meeting to be with us at this time, and they together with a few Friends from other Yearly Meetings were able in the ability that was given them by the Ministers of ministers to divide the word of Truth aright amongst us.

Their company and labor of love have verified anew the words of the Psalmist "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

The exhortation was, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it"

Oh, may the seed sown, be like good seed scattered upon a fertile field, bringing forth fruit abundantly in honor of the great Husbandman.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting,
Dear Friends:-

We have again met together at our annual meeting and you have been brought very near to us by the reading of your Epistle with the others received from those with whom we correspond, and we are glad to know of your prosperous condition, and hope it may continue as you are kept under the influence and direction of the great Head of the Church. May you with me be enabled to let our light so shine that others seeing our good works may glorify our Father in Heaven. That our paths, though they may lead through much that is a cross to the flesh, may be the means of our receiving that peace which He has promised His followers, that is more precious than silver or gold.

We have at this time several dear friends from other Yearly Meetings whose company and gospel labors have been comforting and encouraging to us, and may we heed their tender counsels and advice, believing that they flow from the Fountain of Living Waters.

The reading of the Queries and the answers thereto brings before our view the fact that there is much that might be improved by watchfulness and obedience to the requirements of that Teacher that teaches as never man taught, and is ever ready and willing to aid and succor those who feel as though they had no strength of their own, and that without Him they could do nothing.

Though widely separated as to habitation we do feel a nearness to you in the Spirit, and trust the day will come when by the mercies of our dear Redeemer we may, if faithful in our places, be permitted to walk together in that city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends;

What you wrote in your last Epistle in regard to the prospective and the retrospective of our Society is in accord with our feelings, and it is in keeping with the words of the Apostle Paul, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Could this be the living concern of all under our name in the different parts of the Lord's heritage, would it not hasten that better day when "they shall see eye to eye," and then would they not be able to put to flight the armies of the aliens; But "How shall one chase a thousand, (or ten thousand) to flight; except their Rock had sold them and the Lord had shut them up?"

We may gather from this query that two by working together can do five times as much as they can by laboring individually.

And, now in our favored land where there seems to be so many grasping after the riches of this world, O, how should all who are concerned for the welfare of our Zion heed the counsel of our Savior "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt and where thieves do not break through nor steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

The Society of Friends, we believe, was raised up in part for the purpose of showing to the world that the welfare of the human family does not depend chiefly upon great accumulations of earthly possessions, but that which proceeds from Him who created all things by his omnipotent arm, and who is willing to give unto His obedient children "Gold tried in the fire, that they may be rich

yea, verily, rich in Him who is able to provide all things needful.

Oh, that all friends might ever be found fighting the good fight of faith, and heeding the words of the Prophet, "Strengthen ye the weak hands and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not; behold your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you".

A few Friends are with us from other Yearly Meetings, whose presence and gospel labors have been strengthening and encouraging to us.

The various sittings of the Yearly Meeting were seasons of refreshing as from the Lord and the business was conducted in much harmony.

With brotherly love, we are your friends.

To Canada Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

Your Epistle of the Sixth Month last has been read in our meeting to our edification. There is indeed comfort and strength in this correspondence between these different bodies of Friends who, situated as they are at a distance from each other, are endeavoring to serve the Great Head of the Church in humble simplicity and faithfulness according to the leading of the Spirit of Truth - That Spirit which the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him."

We have also been strengthened by the company and gospel services of some dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings who have come amongst us at this time, and who have helped us onward by their words of admonition, encouragement, and enlargement upon the truths of the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We have held our little Yearly Meeting in great

but acknowledge with thankfulness that He the Great Head of the Church and Master of all things has granted us, unworthy as we are, a measure of His Divine presence. We have transacted the business, we hope, in a measure for the good of the individual members and welfare of the Church.

Most of our members who are left have lived only during the years of weakening and declension. It is a sad thing to see this once highly favored Society going down towards decay. To feel that the great influence for good which it once wielded with the world about us may be passing away; but as has been pertinently said by some of the Lord's messengers who are with us- "We must not look backwards to the past, but press towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus," looking unto Him who is the author and finisher of our faith"

Although we are small and stripped and feeble, we feel to draw the attention of Friends afresh at this time, to the duty which is still laid upon us to set an example to the world about us, of true moderation and temperance in all things, and of faithfulness to manifested duty- That we may seek for ability, and labor to let our light so shine before men, that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father which is in heaven. There is much in this our highly favored land to give us deep concern, and our desire is that we may be given to see what is our duty in order that we may draw away from that which hinders the growth in best things- That the people may come to realize more fully, that righteousness exalteth a nation- That true greatness doth not consist alone in the increase of material things. That unless there is an allegiance to the Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ we cannot hope for His blessing, without which we are poor indeed. With His blessing a little sufficeth us, and He can bless an abundance. With a salutation of love we are your friends

To Western Yearly Meeting,

Dear Friends:—

Brethren in one faith, we are thankful for "your fellowship in the gospel" as manifested in your epistle. We greet you in the words, and we trust in a measure of that in which the Apostle addressed the Church at Ephesus "Grace be to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

How should we not rejoice together and give thanks for all the gifts of Divine love, which if we were to number them are more than the sands of the sea — and above all for the gift of His Spirit whereby we may at times have access to the throne of Grace and for the gift of His Son — through whom we have eternal life.

To Friends, above other denominations has been entrusted the testimony to the living, indwelling Word — the inshining Light — which lighteth every man that cometh into the world — and to the Saviour as the Great High Priest between whom and man there is no need of mortal priest.

To us also has been entrusted the testimony of the refreshings of silent worship — the worship in Spirit and in truth. Let us see to it that our silence results in real spiritual exercise — power and growth and that the inheritance of truth which we have received from our fathers and which is borne in upon our hearts with the Divine seal, is handed down with all the prophetic authority of old.

Thus do we exhort you and ourselves while we confess a lively sense of our shortcomings and unworthiness. But we do not forget the words of the prophet Isaiah "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength". So let us keep in the lowly place — exalting His most Holy Name — abiding in Him until endued with power, and then strong in His might go forth prisoners of the Lord — and His witnesses.

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ — be with you all".

1907 N. New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly, Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First Day the 9th of Sixth Month, 1907, and Second Day the 10th with those for Discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting, viz:-

From Rhode Island Quarter, Amos C. Foster and Thomas Perry.

From Sandwich Quarter, Peter R. Tucker, Joel S. Gidley and James H. Tucker, whose names being called they are all present.

The committee named at our last Yearly Meeting to take into consideration the holding of our Yearly Meetings in joint sessions to make the following report;

It is proposed by the Committee, that after the reading of the opening minute, the calling of the names of the representatives, and the reading of the minutes of last years Meeting, the following report should be made in each Meeting, viz:-

The Committee of Men and Women Friends, appointed last year, to take into consideration the proposition of holding joint sessions, are united in proposing as follows; That each body hold the usual session separately on second day morning

That both Men's and Women's Meetings direct their representatives to meet together at the rise of the morning session, and propose names of Friends to serve the joint Meeting, as Clerk and Assistant Clerk, for the ensuing year.

That the Committees on Summary answer to the queries be directed also, to meet together and prepare joint answers.

1907 That the committee appointed by each Meeting at the morning session, to prepare essays of answers to Epistles, be directed to meet together, and prepare a single set of replies.

That the following Minute in relation to this change in holding our sessions, shall be appended to each Epistle by the Clerk, as information, to the different Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, viz:-

After careful consideration it has become the united judgment of our Men and Women Meetings that if we should hold our Meetings jointly, it would strengthen our hands, and we hope, promote our ability to transact the business of the Yearly Meeting to the honor of Truth.

We have, therefore, made that change, and from this time, there will be no separate Men or Women's Meeting, and we have returned to the custom of sending joint Epistles, which formerly prevailed in the correspondence of this Yearly Meeting.

That if both the Men and Women's Meetings unite with this report they shall both adjourn, at the close of the morning session, to meet together, in the upper room of the meeting house, at four o'clock, on second day afternoon.

On behalf of the Committee,

Jonathan Chace,
Susanna W. Gidley.

This is satisfactory to the Meeting and it being approved also by the Women's Meeting, Men and Women Friends will, from this time, meet to transact the business of the Yearly Meeting in joint session.

Our beloved Friend Elizabeth C. Cowper attended this Meeting with a minute from New Garden Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at West Grove Pa. the 8th of 5th Mo. 1907 liberating her to visit, in the love of the Gospel, New England Yearly Meeting, she being a minister with whom they have unity;

The company and gospel labors of our beloved Friend Elizabeth C. Cooper named in the foregoing Minute have been encouraging and strengthening to us and the clerk is directed to furnish her with a returning minute and sign it on behalf of this Meeting.

Our beloved Friend Edith Sharpless attended this Meeting with a Minute from London Grove Monthly Meeting of Friends held at London Grove, Pa. Sixth Month 6th. 1907; liberating her to accompany Elizabeth C. Cooper on her religious visit to New England Yearly Meeting, she being an Elder in unity with them.

Her solid and consistent deportment have been helpful and encouraging and the clerk is directed to furnish her with a returning Minute and sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

Our beloved Friend Henry T. Outland attended this Meeting with a Minute from Rich Square Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Cedar Grove, Northampton County, North Carolina, Fifth Month 18th 1907; endorsed by Eastern Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Snow Hill, Chowan County N. C. Fifth Month 25th 1907; liberating him to visit in gospel love New England Yearly Meeting held at Westerly R. I.; also the Meetings constituting Scipio Quarterly Meeting N. Y. and to appoint some meetings in Pennsylvania, and, if way open for it, attend Canada Yearly Meeting, and such other service as may be required; he being a minister of the gospel in unity. The company and labors in the love of the gospel of our beloved Friend Henry T. Outland named in the foregoing Minute have been encouraging to us and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a returning Minute and sign it on behalf of this Meeting.

Our beloved Friend Abram Fisher attended this Meeting with a Minute from Richmond Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Cedar Grove Northampton County N. C. Fifth Month 18th 1907; endorsed by Eastern Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Snow Hill, Chowan County N. C. Fifth Month 25th 1907; liberating him to visit in gospel love New England Yearly Meeting held at Westerly R. I.; also the Yearly Meeting to be held in Canada.

The companionship and gospel labors of our beloved Friend Abram Fisher named in the foregoing Minute have been helpful and comforting to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a returning Minute and sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

We appoint our Friends Jesse R. Tucker and Anne C. Foster to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We appoint our Friends Jonathan Chace and James H. Tucker to meet with three Friends who may be named by the Women's Meeting to prepare a summary of the answers to the queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

We have received and read at this time acceptable Epistles from Canada, Western, Iowa, Kansas, Ohio and North Carolina Yearly Meetings and we appoint James H. Tucker, Jonathan Chace, and Job S. Gidley to meet with the Friends who may be appointed by the Women's Meeting and prepare, if way opens for it, essays of replies to these letters and produce them at a future sitting of the Meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting, with the representatives of the Womens Meeting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk and the name of another Friend as Assistant Clerk for the ensuing year and report at the opening of the joint sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Second day afternoon about the time adjourned to. Men and Women Friends assembled in joint session

James H. Tucker on behalf of the representatives reported that they had met and that they were united in proposing the names of Job S. Gidley for Clerk and Mary B. Foster for Assistant Clerk. Their names being separately considered, both nominations were approved and they are appointed for three years respectively for the ensuing year, or till others are appointed in their places.

The Queries have been read, at this time with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings and a Summary having been prepared by the Committee named, at our morning sitting, it has also been read and the clerk is directed to record the same.

Adjourned to the third hour Third-Day afternoon.

Third Day afternoon about the time adjourned to Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called they were present as at our first sitting.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved, and it was concluded to reappoint the following Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year, viz: Jonathan Chace, Amos C. Foster, Charles Perry, Anna H. Chace Lydia S. Nichols, James H. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, George H. Gifford Sarah F. Wilbur, Susanna N. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Elizabeth P. Foster, and Mary P. Foster,

The committee appointed at our first sitting to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer, make the following report;

The committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's account have attended to that service and found the account correctly kept and proper vouchers filed and find a balance of $1,222,93

We have united in proposing the name of Harry C. Perry for Treasurer for the ensuing year.

On behalf of the Committee

Amos C. Foster,

This is satisfactory to the Meeting, and Harry C. Perry is appointed Treasurer for the year ensuing, or until another appointment,

The essays of Epistles prepared by the committee were read at this time and approved, and the clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Ohio, Canada, Iowa, Western, Kansas, and South Carolina Yearly Meetings,

A verbal report by members of the Book and Tract Committee was made at this time that a few books and tracts have been distributed which was satisfactory to the Meeting

and it was concluded to re-appoint George H. Gifford, James H. Tucker, Bob S. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Charles Perry, Elizabeth P. Foster, Anna H. Chace, Sarah F. Wilbur, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Emma A. F. Perry, and Anna A. Gardner, a committee to procure and distribute such books and tracts as in their judgment they think will best promote the cause of Truth and righteousness, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting, both Men's and Women's, also the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting.

The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

The clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

Charles Perry of Westerly, Rhode Island and Bob S. Gidley of North Dartmouth, Mass. are re-appointed correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The several sittings of our Yearly Meeting have been considered seasons of Divine favor.

The truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ have been declared in that ability wherewith God alone can qualify His messengers to proclaim them to a dying world. Oh may we, the recipients of these tokens of Divine regard, let them sink deep into our hearts that they may bring forth fruit to the honor and praise of our Heavenly Father, and as we separate to return to our places of abode may we all be kept as in the hollow of His holy hand.

Having been permitted to transact the business of the Yearly Meeting in harmony and in a true Christian spirit we now conclude purposing to meet at this place, at the usual time next year, if consistent with the Divine Will.

Job S. Gidley, Clerk.

Summary of Answers to the Queries.

Ans. 1st. All our meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held except three, one preparative Meeting not being held on account of prevalence of sickness. Meetings on First Days have been pretty well attended, but mid-week meetings and those for discipline are much neglected by a few.

The Sabbath is pretty well observed, but quite clear in regard to sleep. No other unbecoming behavior noticed.

Ans. 2nd. Love and unity are, in a good degree, maintained and detraction guarded against, except that one or two Friends in most cases endeavor to guard against detraction. No differences are reported.

Ans 3rd. A portion of our members feel a concern to bring up those under their direction and care in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel; to restrain them from pernicious reading and from corrupt conversation, also to be good examples themselves; yet more care in these respects is needful. It is believed the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends families.

Ans. 4th. Clear of the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine, and careful to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of places of public resort, and observe moderation and temperance on most occasions.

Ans. 5th. There are no Friends needing pecuniary aid. All children have an opportunity to acquire an education to fit them for business. No children are placed from among Friends.

Ans. 6th. Friends appear to be clear in respect to the requirements of this query except in one instance.

Ans. 7th. Friends appear to be generally clear in respect to the requirements of this query except that one account reports that there are some of our members who, at times, attend meetings where there is a paid ministry.

Ans. 8th. We believe Friends are clear in regard to the second part of this query.

Ans. 9th. Our records are attended to, there have been no removals without certificates.

Ans. 10th. Friends continue to feel a concern in regard to the important subject of this query, and some care has been extended, but owing to the weakness and small-ness of our numbers a neglect is apparent in these respects and no judgment has been placed since our last account.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:-

We have read your epistle of the Tenth month last, with profit and to our edification. We believe, with you that unless our words are quickened indeed by the Spirit of Divine Truth,

they can be of no profit to either the sender or the receiver, for the flesh profiteth nothing.

Therefore, dear friends, there has existed with us a truly concern, an earnest and heartfelt desire, that this correspondence (most comforting and profitable withal, as it may be, if proceeded in under the seal of the Spirit of Truth) may not fall into a perfunctory formality, a dead form, for indeed "the letter killeth, but it is the Spirit that quickeneth." Therefore while our minds have been drawn towards you in that love which would embrace the brethren everywhere, we have earnestly craved that He, the Great Ruler of Events, would make clear unto us the way - whether to go forth or to withhold. The sad decadence of this once highly favored Society, which, a century ago had taken root in so many hearts, and for a time seemed to flourish like a green bay tree, where it is, now scarcely a memory, has been to some of us a matter of most solemn consideration. This people was raised up to proclaim anew the ancient doctrine of the Inner Light; to protest against the idolatrous man-worship and corruption which followed the Elizabethan era; to set again before the people an example of that holy faith which enshrined good old Abraham when he led his little boy forth to the thicket as a sacrifice; to cite the people to the Witness for Truth in their own hearts; to show them that He had written His law in their inward parts; that mankind needed no priesthood to intervene between them and their Savior; and to proclaim anew the birthright of a free gospel ministry.

Earnest have been our asperations for ourselves and for the brethren everywhere that we might set our feet in the true path Zionward. While they were grievously buffeted, downtrodden and persecuted unto death, they grew and flourished apace.

But when the world came to praise us as a people and to accept some of the truth; how have we lost our former valor,

The Lord hath blessed this Society in both temporals and spirituals. He hath given unto us the south lands and sent upon us the earlier and the latter rains, and for a season we, as a people, did wax fat, until at last, while some of the people slept, did not the enemy steal in and sow the tares of infidelity?

When we look back to the past generations of our Society, remembering all the many fathers whom we hope and believe have been gathered to their everlasting rest, whose robes doubtless were washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb; remembering that when there were many we are few, we feel heavily the burden of responsibility which rests upon us.

A living concern arises, lest in avoiding the form out of which our fathers were led we may fall into a dead formality; having the form of Godliness without the life.

Oh for more individual faithfulness; more real experimental knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of God; for more faith, more courage; more devotion, more true love for one another - that our ministers might faithfully go on, but only as, and only as far as, the Spirit leadeth them! That our Elders might be faithful sentinels upon the watch tower of our Zion. Then might we hope for our Israel to come up again out of the wilderness.

Our earnest desire is that we may not be of those who are resting on the lees of a dead faith, "who on their own conclusions repose" We desire that ours might not be an emotional religion, but rather that calm and steadfast faith born of the Spirit, which endureth all things, hopeth all things, proveth all things, holding fast that which is good,

instant in season serving the Lord

To Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends;-

Though few in numbers we have met again in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting and He who promised to meet with the two or three that were gathered in His name has indeed been manifested in our different gatherings by the covering that was felt to be over us as well as by being at the right-hand of those whom He has moved by His love to proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ Jesus our Lord.

There are several Friends from other Yearly Meetings with us, some of whom have minutes from their meetings whose company and gospel labors have been comforting and encouraging to us. As rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land, giving as a comforting assurance that we are still the recipients of the care and love of Him who knoweth our hearts and withholdeth them who diligently serve Him.

May we all seek after and find that way that leads to an inheritance that shall endure for all time. Our tarriance here is but for a short time and how important that we so live while here that when we are called hence we may have no condemnation, that our sins may have gone beforehand to judgment and not follow after.

If any man have not the Spirit of Christ he is none of His. Therefore let us examine ourselves in His sight and see if we have laid our foundations on the rock that cannot be moved by the elements, for His light will reveal all imperfections in our work if we will humble ourselves before Him.

The epistles from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond have been read at this time and they were the means of much comfort to us. With love we remain your friends.

1907

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends:

Dear Friends:-

As we have again been permitted to assemble in the capacity of a yearly meeting, and have had in our sittings together many consoling evidences that we are the objects of the tender mercy of our Heavenly Father, and this influence has worked upon us, we believe, to the strengthening of the bonds of fellowship one for another wherever situated.

We have read your letter of sympathy and encouragement with great thankfulness, and feel we can indeed address you as brothers and sisters in the same spirit.

We have mourned the absence of departed loved ones whose counsel in the past has been valuable to us, and who have been as fathers and mothers in Israel.

As a renewed evidence of the unslumbering care of our Heavenly Father we have been visited at this time by many husbandmen from other vineyards, and we trust the nourishing and watering as it were which has been permitted to flow in a remarkable manner has not fallen entirely upon stony ground, but that the older branches may be strengthened to bear more fruit, and the younger branches may drink in the life giving nourishment thus tenderly bestowed; and may we remember the injunction, "Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard and hold fast and repent" that we may have "a few names even in Sardis, which have not defiled their garments."

Trusting this may be received as an acknowledgment of your valuable epistle, we remain your friends.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends:—

Your letters of the Tenth Month last have been read in our hearing, and we feel to thank our Heavenly Father, who has inspired you to write to us, and to make us realize that we have, in you, true friends, who desire our increase in faith, in our love for God, and in our willingness to let Him lead us according to His only holy and perfect will.

We are oft times discouraged and almost ready to give way to dispair, but when we receive from our friends, who are striving to live by the true Light, which we also try to follow, such letters as those which we have just received from you, we stoop to take up our burden again and "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"

It is very easy for those who are afflicted to feel that no other burdens can be as heavy as their own, not stopping to realize that these are laid upon us for our growth in grace. We are often tempted to fret and murmur in regard to our own trials, but God with His infinite love and patience condescends to our low estate, and comforts all who look unto Him. We have no doubt that you know of this from your own experience, and we do not presume to teach you anything, only to encourage any among you who may be drooping by the way to look steadfastly to what our early Friends ever spoke of as "the Truth" which is Christ himself within us and none other. Having Christ and heeding His voice in our hearts, we can need nothing more. May we with you, each one of us, pay heed to Him, then shall there be nothing in our own way and we can go on our way rejoicing, till He shall call us to our home with Him.

We have with us several dear friends from other Yearly Meetings for whose presence and gospel labors we are very thankful. And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Farewell.

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends,
Dear Friends:-

Again we have met in a Yearly Meeting capacity and so few are our numbers and so weak and unworthy do we feel, that discouragements abound. "What is man that Thou art mindful of him, or the son of man that Thou visitest him" would seem to be our dispairing cry,- but from different parts of the Lord's heritage there has rallied to our side valiant soldiers of Christ's kingdom, who have by their deep sympathy and Christian love fulfilled the command of Christ- "Feed my sheep." Tender counsel and words of comfort and encouragement have been handed forth to our admiration. We have been incited to greater diligence in overcoming our Lord's enemies; and fervent prayers have arisen to the Most High, during the different sittings that we may put on strength in the name of Israel's God and press forward toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"; counting nothing as little things which are called for in the way of duty; but in little things as well as greater, obey the law of God in our every heart; so that we may depart from evil and do good and dwell forever more.

Very comforting to our feeble state was the reading of the Epistles from the various Yearly Meetings, and with us, as with you, we need often to call to mind the Savior's promise, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them" and as you truly say; "what can we ask for more?" "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runneth into it and are safe."

"O that Thou wouldst bow the heavens and

come down that the mountains might flow down at thy presence" was the language of one formerly even the mountains of opposition to His blessed will in our hearts, through whose power alone the mountains can be removed out of the way, that we may move forward in newness of life.

A great concern has been felt for our younger members, that they may be willing to make a full surrender of all that stands in the way of their advancement in best things.

With a salutation of love we are your friends.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends,

Dear Friends:-

Being assembled once more in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, but a mere handful, the very least of the flock with no might nor power of our own to do any good thing, still we feel that the Giver of all good is watching over us in our low estate and feelings have arisen, at this time, to address you in the love of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and we desire that you as well as ourselves may be strengthened in the inner man, and cleansed and purified by the Great Husbandman that we may bring forth fruit to His honor and glory.

The various sittings of our little Yearly Meeting were felt to be precious seasons of Divine favor. A few Friends were with us from other Yearly Meetings who were enabled by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the good tidings in demonstration of spirit and of power.

Supplications were offered to the Throne of Grace for our preservation. O may we close in with the offers of Redeeming Love and choose that good that good part that shall not be taken from us.

And to you, beloved Friends we would say may God so direct your steps on life's journey

that the youth of your Yearly Meeting may take knowledge of you that you have been with Jesus, and thereby be encouraged to greater faithfulness. And to each one of you dear young friends we feel to say "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth ere the evil days come not And the years draw nigh when thou shalt say I have no pleasure in them".

An early sacrifice is well pleasing to Our Heavenly Father and if you will be His faithful, obedient children, ever ready to give up your own will and submit to the Divine Will you will have a hundred fold more in this life and in the world to come life everlasting.

We greatly desire to encourage all of you to stand fast, immovable in maintaining all our precious principles which have come to us as a rich legacy that the plant of true Quakerism may be kept alive in that part of the Lord's heritage and that it may bring forth fruit that will be like the leaven that leaveneth the whole lump.

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

At New England Yearly Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Westerly Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings to worship on First Day the 7th of Sixth Month 1908 and second Day the 8th with those for Discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting namely.

From Rhode Island Quarter Elizabeth P. Foster, Abby H. Gardner, Lydia H. Nichols, Charles Perry, Eunice B. Clark, Annie C. Foster, Lucy H. Foster, and Mary P. Foster.

From Sandwich Quarter Jesse R. Tucker, James H. Tucker, Job S. Gilly, Rebel L. Gifford, Sarah E. Mitchell and Elizabeth G. Wilbur, whose names being called they are all present.

We appoint our friends Jesse R. Tucker and Annie C. Foster to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We appoint our friends James H. Tucker, Charles Perry, Mary P. Foster and Eunice B. Clark to prepare a Summary of the answers to the queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

The proposition of holding the business meetings of Men and Women Friends in joint ~~in joint~~ session coming up from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting it is approved of by this Meeting and they are left at liberty to do so.

Information has been forwarded to this Meeting from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of the appointment of Jonathan Chace and Jane C. Chace to the station of Elder.

We have received and read at this time Epistles from Canada, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Ohio, and North Carolina Yearly Meetings.

The time of the reading of these letters from our friends of other Yearly Meetings was a precious season, tendering our hearts.

O, that we may not forget these Divine favors, but let us rather be more faithful in looking to the Great Head of the Church that we may be strengthened to do what may be required at our hands.

We appoint Jonathan Chace, James H. Archer, Rob S. Gilley, Abby H. Gardner, Elizabeth S. Wilbur, Charles Perry, Mary P. Foster, Arthur Perry, Elizabeth P. Foster, Eunice T. Clark, Lewis W. Foster, Mary E. Foster, and Emma S. F. Perry to prepare, if way opens for it, essays of replies to these letters and produce them at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk and the name of another Friend as Assistant Clerk for the ensuing year and report at the opening of the Sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Second-Day afternoon about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned Men and Women Friends again assembled.

Charles Perry on behalf of the representatives reported that they had met and that they were united in proposing the names of Rob S. Gilley for Clerk and Mary P. Foster for Assistant Clerk.

Their names being separately considered both nominations were approved and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year, or till others are appointed in their places.

The Queries were read at this time with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings, and a Summary prepared by the Committee named at our morning sitting, was also read and the clerk is directed to record the same.

The Records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved and it was concluded to reappoint the following Friends to constitute a Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year viz. Jonathan Chace, Anne C. Foster, Charles Perry, Anna H. Chace, Lydia H. Nichols, Phineas H. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, Sarah H. Wilbur, Susanna H. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Elizabeth P. Foster, and Mary P. Foster and add the names of the following Friends. Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Eunice B. Nichols, Isabel L. Giffords and Arthur Perry.

A Communication having been laid before this Meeting from a Yearly Meeting held at East 15th Street New York and another Yearly Meeting held at Poughkepsie New York on the Subject of peace; it was concluded after a time of deliberation thereon to refer it to the Meeting for Sufferings with power.

Adjourned to the 3rd hour Third Day afternoon.

Third Day afternoon about the time is which the Meeting was adjourned Friends again assembled.

The committee appointed at our first sitting to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer make the following report,

The committee appointed to examine the Treasurers account, have attended to that service, and find the account has been correctly kept and the

proper vouchers filed. We find a balance on hand of $1,239.36; and thus are united in proposing the name of Harvey B. Perry for Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Signed on behalf of the committee
Amos O. Foster.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey B. Perry is appointed Treasurer for the ensuing year, or till another appointment.

The essays of Epistles prepared by the committee raised at our first sitting were read at this time and approved and the clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Ohio Canada, Iowa, Western, Kansas and North Carolina Yearly Meetings.

The following report was made by the Book and Tract Committee.

Your Book and Tract Committee have since last year, bought about $40.00 worth of books and tracts, some of them were paid for by the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting, while more than one-half were paid for by a member of the committee and presented to us.

Many of the tracts have been distributed where it was hoped they would do good.

The books were such as George Fox's Journal, Barclay's Apology, Sewel's History, the writings of William Penn, Isaac Pennington, Stephen Grellett and those of other worthies.

These have been placed in such Committing homes for the use of such Friends, if any there be, who do not own copies of them, and to be lent to any inquirer who may care to read them. There seems to be much misunderstanding as to Friends principles, many thinking us to be Unitarians, while others suppose us to hold strange ideas, and hardly

know what to think of us, It is the desire of your committee, by lending these books, to correct these errors, and it may be to lead some to a knowledge of the truth.

On behalf of the Committee

Elizabeth P. Foster Chairman.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and it was concluded to appoint James H. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Charles Perry, Elizabeth P. Foster, Anna H. Chace, Sarah A. Wilbur, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Anna A. Gardner, Emma A. F. Perry, Gertrude E. Foster and Sarah E. Mitchell a committee to procure such books and tracts as in their judgment are most suitable for distribution and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting, together with the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting. The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings. The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign them on its behalf. Charles Perry of Westerly, Rhode Island and Job S. Gidley of North Dartmouth, Mass. are re-appointed Correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

During the several sittings of our Yearly Meeting the promise of our loving Saviour has been verified; "I will not leave you comfortless I will come unto you" The wing of Ancient Goodness was felt to overshadow us, And for all the unmerited blessings bestowed upon us we would render thanksgiving and praise to our Father in Heaven.

Having been permitted to transact the business claiming our attention in much love and condescension one toward another, we now conclude purposing to meet at this place at the usual time next year, if consistent with the Divine Will.

Job S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary of the Answers to the Queries

Ans. 1st. All our meetings for religious worship and those for discipline have been duly held, and have been diligently attended by a portion of our members when health permitted. But the week-day meetings and some of those for business are neglected by some, although of late there has been some improvement.

Ans. 2nd. Love and unity, in a good degree are maintained among us and endeavors are used to avoid detraction. No differences have been brought to our notice.

Ans. 3rd. We believe that some Friends feel a concern to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech behavior and apparel, to restrain them from reading pernicious books and corrupt conversation, also to be good examples therein themselves, yet more care in these respects is needful. We believe that the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends families.

Ans. 4th. We believe that Friends are careful to maintain our testimony in regard to the several parts of this query.

Ans. 5th. No poor among us needing assistance. Children duly partake of learning. None placed from among Friends.

Ans. 6th. One account report one case of marrying out of meeting at which some members were present.

Ans. 7th. One account reports that there are some members who at times attend meetings where there is a paid ministry. Clear as to the other parts of this query.

Ans. 8th. We believe Friends are clear in regard to the several parts of this query.

Ans. 9th. The records have had attention. One account reports one removal without certificate.

Ans. 10th. Some care is taken to deal with offenders as way opened after. No judgment has been placed since our last account.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends,

This year we have had no visiting ministers from other Yearly Meetings, and the epistles from the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond have brought special encouragement; and have been a token of Divine favor. We have been turned to a waiting upon Him who alone can speak to each one's condition; and with thankful hearts we acknowledge a sense of the Divine covering in our sittings.

"Lift up your heads O ye gates, and be ye lifted up ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in." How shall we not rejoice together in the great truth for individual members and for the whole consecrated Church of Christ, that if one only will throw open the shutters and fling wide the door of the heart, the Light will come in, and "He will sup with me, and me with Him." Then is realized that living communion, the partaking of the true bread of life.

If we have one word more than another for you and for us at this time, it is the word of encouragement - of joy and of comfort - in our faith and in our opportunity and privilege of service in the world in giving out the Quaker message - not in word alone but in life and in truth. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Do we not all know of those whose very presence is an inspiration and a blessing not so much because of their words as because of their character; so that we are led to exclaim with another "What you are speaks so loud, that I cannot hear what you say"

Let us not lose sight of the blessed heritage which is ours, the privilege of teaching the world the direct and immediate indwelling and in dwelling

of Christ in each individual heart - and His direct ministry to the children of men without outward priest or outward sacrament. But with the privilege and with the high command the conviction that this cannot be done in our own strength, - but that we must wait to be led by that - inspeaking Word - so that Truth may be established in us, and through us others may be led to acknowledge it. Then shall we become living epistles, and "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" and may His grace be with you and with us evermore.

To Western Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends; -

The reading of your Epistle has brought you afresh to our minds, and we feel a near and abiding sympathy with those of the same household of faith as we endeavor to feel for right ability to address you. Our Saviour said "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life"

To Him and to His words and spirit it is, that we feel to call your attention, with desires, that we may all strive to come, more and more, into a willing, submissive obedience to the light of Divine Truth in our hearts,

We feel poor and weak and know that of ourselves alone we can do no good thing, yet in Him who is strength in weakness, and a present help in every time of need, we place our trust - believing that He will neither leave nor forsake us if we will cleave unto Him; but we must be willing to become as clay in the hands of a potter ere we can be fashioned into vessels fit for His use.

Our once highly favored Society through the zeal and devotion of its members for that great

cause so dear to them, seem to have had power given to them over the wiles of the enemy so that nothing could hurt them. Notwithstanding in this let us rejoice not; but rather let us rejoice because of our hope, that our names are written in heaven. We gladly believe there is a good degree of tenderness of spirit, and attachment to the principles of our religious Society, among many of our members, and as these are faithful to His leadings there will be a realizing of the Scripture which saith "The Lord shall comfort Zion. He shall comfort her waste places, and He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord, Joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody."

In the same bond of love we remain your friends.

To Iowa Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

Once more we have been permitted, through the unmerited mercy of our Heavenly Father, to meet in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting- and while we looked forward to our annual gathering with feelings of poverty and discouragement, we have been favored to feel a little of fresh strength and to go forward with more courage than we could have hoped for.

It is only as we place our dependence on Him who was never foiled in battle, that we are enabled to look forward with a little hope that we shall not be forgotten, and if we are faithful and will seek it aright Holy Help may be granted us to go on our way, though it may be in a path of much labor and with many crosses that we have to walk in, but if we are faithful to the end our reward will be sure.

It is indeed necessary that we live near to our Heavenly Father every hour- and may all be

faithful to know an establishment and preservation on the sure foundation Christ Jesus,
"Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid"

We have not been favored, at this time, with the company of Friends from other Yearly Meetings, but we have felt that we were not forgotten. The Minister of assemblies has been with us and we have listened to words of instruction, and hope the seed may have fallen on good ground, sinking into our every heart and be taken with us to our homes & be remembered as the time passes.

Your acceptable Epistle with those of all the Yearly Meetings in our circle of correspondence has been read to our comfort and instruction and may the helpful thoughts be cherished and bring forth fruit for the harvest.

Desiring that we may individually grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ we bid you an affectionate farewell.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting,
Dear Friends;—

Having again met as a Yearly Meeting we are very thankful to our Heavenly Father for His overshadowing love and presence, which we have so perceptably felt at this time. His gracious presence is ever with His children and it is for them, simply to let it crowd out worldly things, to be wholly His and rejoice in His work. When Christ is in the heart there is no room for evil.

Though we have no ministers from other Yearly Meetings with us at this time, we have had good meetings and it has we feel, but brought out our own members the more, and shown us that our real help and dependence is

not on man but in Christ Jesus the Lord.

Our young people are taking more interest in the meeting than formerly and we feel though there are not many of them, yet there will be standard bearers in the future as in the past, and the great truths that we as a Society uphold shall not lack witnesses. The Truth will prevail. God is great and good, and His work will go on, His kingdom come His will be done.

We have received both of your good Epistles and we feel grateful to you for your counsel and loving sympathy, and feel that we have been helped thereby. We send but one answer to both as we now, owing to our reduced numbers, hold our Yearly Meeting in joint session of Men and Women Friends.

Our sympathy and love go out to you for the loss of your dear Friends. We have suffered many such losses within the past few years, but our loss is their gain, and surely the Lord will provide, and if we all keep close to Him and earnestly seek His help, and prayerfully ask to do His work, strength and inspiration will be given us.

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him."

We are very sincerely your friends.

To Canada Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:—

We feel to address you in that love which knows no bounds, but embraces the brethren everywhere. Although we have not had, this year, the company of any ministering Friends from other Yearly Meetings, nevertheless it has been a season of comfort and satisfaction, though stripped and few as we are in number, and although weighed down and under discouragement as we sometimes are, with a

solemn realization of our shortcomings both as a body, and some of us as individuals. These our short comings have been set before us; and earnest petitions, both vocal and silent, have been raised to our Father who is in Heaven, that He would condescend to our low estate and comfort us with the overshadowing of His Divine Presence, poor and unworthy as we are. And we have realized in some degree, the comforting promise of our Blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to His disciples, that "Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them"

We have been humbled also, with a realizing sense that He knoweth the hearts of all men, and that He also searcheth our hearts, and if we serve Him in true sincerity and faithfulness, His spirit will help our infirmities, and make intercession for us; "for we know all things work together for good to them that love God". We know also, that "God is not mocked; for, whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap". "If we sow to the flesh, we shall of the flesh reap corruption, but if we sow to the Spirit, we shall of the spirit reap life everlasting."

Therefore, dear brethren and sisters, our aspirations for ourselves and for you are, that we may be given ability and strength, to serve Him, in faithfulness, with humility and abasedness of soul, remembering always that we are "debtors to do the whole law,—that law of God written by His finger on every heart, the law of the spirit, one of love to God and man. By the power of Divine love, shed abroad by the spirit of Christ on our heart, are we enabled to keep and fulfil this law of God. "The fruit of this spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance," Let us not be deceived; ever bearing in mind, "The foundation of God

standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His. And let everyone, that nameth the name of Christ, depart from iniquity."

Our Yearly Meeting has been a season of comfort and edification. We have been enabled to transact the business of the Church, with much love, harmony, and Christian condescension. Dear friends, that our hearts have indeed been lifted up in praise and thanksgiving to His holy name, who is the Master of Assemblies, and without whose blessing, we can do no good thing.

With the salutation of love we are your friends

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

Being assembled in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting and hearing your interesting Epistle read, together with the others within our circle, we are thankful to our Heavenly Father that He enabled you to speak words of sympathy and encouragement to us. O may we all look more and more to the Great Head of the Church for strength that will help to greater faithfulness as individual members of the Church militant, and verify in our own experience the truth of the language, "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of Him that bringeth good tidings that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good that publisheth salvation that saith unto Zion thy God reigneth."

O that all Friends in our favored land might do all in their power to check the growth of the military spirit among the people of our nation, and thus be instrumental in the hastening of that better day "when nation shall no longer lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war any more." And we would that all people the world over might keep the commandment given by our Saviour "Love one another as I have loved you"

Although there are no minister Friends with us at this time, doubtless our Heavenly Father has done what is for our good, in thus

leaving us to ourselves. It may have been, in part to teach us to put our entire dependence upon Him.

Although our Meeting was small the various sittings were felt to be seasons of Divine favor, and we were able to transact the business coming before us in much harmony.

And, dear Friends, we would say to you "Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand" And we desire that you may be able to maintain all our precious testimonies in their ancient truth and purity; and we desire this for ourselves as well as for you.

And may we with you be found doing our days work while the day lasts and not be putting it off for a more convenient season.

With a salutation of love we remain your friends.

1909.

At New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First Day, the 6th of Sixth Month, 1909, and Second Day the 7th with those for Discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting, namely.

From Rhode Island Quarter, Lydia F. Nichols Charles Perry, Amos O. Foster, Elizabeth P. Foster, Mary P. Foster and Thomas P. Nichols.

From Sandwich Quarter Jesse R. Tucker Susanna H. Tidley, Isabelle L. Gifford and Job S. Tidley whom ~~and~~ being called they are all present,

Our dear Friend Eli H. Harvey attended this meeting with a minute from West Union Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Monrovia, Morgan County, Indiana, held 3rd mo. 10th 1909, endorsed by White Lick Quarterly Meeting of Friends held 5th mo. 8th 1909, liberating him, under the direction of Best Wisdom, to visit in the love of the gospel, the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia, New England and Canada and most of the Meetings composing them, and to visit the invalids, also to attend some meetings belonging to our own Yearly Meeting in going and returning, and to attend to such other religious service as Truth calls for while in prosecution of the visit.

His company and gospel labors have been encouraging and strengthening to us. The Clerk is directed to furnish him with a returning Minute and sign the same on behalf of this Meeting.

Our dear Friend Henry T. Outland attended this Meeting. He stated that his Monthly Meeting had granted him a Minute which was endorsed by his Quarterly Meeting, but he had omitted to take it with him.

His company and gospel labors have been encouraging and strengthening to us.

The Clerk is directed to furnish him with a Minute from this Meeting and sign the same on its behalf.

Our dear Friend Stephen R. Smith attended this Meeting at this time. He is a member of Lisburn Monthly Meeting in Ireland. His company and labors of love have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a Minute and sign the same on behalf of this Meeting.

Our dear Friends Thomas Fisher and Thomas C. Hogue from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting are acceptably with us at this time.

We appoint our Friends Thomas P. Nichols and Amos C. Foster to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

Thomas Fisher stated that his father Abram Fisher of North Carolina who had a minute from this Meeting to visit Friends of this country, was expecting to attend this Meeting, but owing to his great age and feeble health he gave up coming, by the advice of his family. He sends a message of love by his son Thomas Fisher.

The Clerk is directed to send him a letter in appreciation of his love and good will for us with a regret that he was not able to be with us.

Epistles have been received from Canada, Western, Iowa, Kansas, Ohio and North Carolina Yearly Meetings, which were read at this time.

Jonathan Chace, Isabelle L. Gifford, Job S. Gidley, Abby H. Gardner, Mary P. Foster, Arthur Perry, Phebe P. Buffum, Mary E. Foster, James H. Tucker and Susanna W. Gidley are appointed, if way opens for it, to prepare essays of replies to these letters and produce them at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We appoint our Friends Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry and Susanna W. Gidley to prepare a summary of the answers to the queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve this Meeting for Clerk, and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk for the ensuing year and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Second Day afternoon, at about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned. Men and Women Friends again assembled.

Jesse R. Tucker on behalf of the representatives reported that they had met and that they were united in proposing the names of Job S. Gidley for Clerk, and Mary P. Foster for Assistant Clerk.

Their names being separately considered, the proposition was united with, and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year, or till others are appointed in their places.

The following report was made by the Book and Tract Committee.

We have, during the past year, distributed perhaps a smaller amount of books and tracts than usual. Nevertheless a goodly number has been given out. This work must always be considered as bread cast upon the waters, and we have to leave the result to Him who inspires the deed.

The Committee have received a gift of many Friends' books which belonged to a deceased Friend George Foster, and have placed them on the shelves at the entrance of the meeting house.

There have been no books or tracts purchased during the year.

Signed Elizabeth P. Foster Chairman

The report was satisfactory and it was concluded to reappoint James H. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Charles Perry, Elizabeth P. Foster, Anna H. Chace, Sarah F. Wilbur, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Anna A. Gardner, Emma A. F. Perry, Gertrude E. Foster, and Sarah E. Mitchell, a committee to procure such books and tracts as in their judgment are most desirable for distribution and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

The state of society was entered upon by the reading of the Queries, with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings.

A summary, having been prepared by the committee named at our morning sitting, was also read and the Clerk is directed to record the same. -

During the consideration of the state of society as brought to our attention by the reading of the queries and answers, we were introduced into a lively concern to an examination of our hearts individually that we might realize the cause of our short comings, and we were earnestly encouraged by our visiting Friends to put our entire confidence in the living God and press forward and be willing to do our part to bring about a true revival and not be ashamed of the gospel of Christ which is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.

Adjourned to the third hour Third Day afternoon.

Third Day afternoon, at about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned, Men and Women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called they were all present.

The committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year make the following report.

The Committee appointed to examine and audit the Treasurer's account report that they have examined the same and find it correct, showing a balance on hand of $1,226.24; and we also recommend that our friend Harvey C. Perry, be re appointed as Treasurer for the ensuing year. On behalf of the Committee

Thomas P. Nichols

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is reappointed Treasurer for the ensuing year or until another appointment.

The essays of Epistles prepared by the committee named at the first sitting of this Meeting were read and approved, and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Ohio, Canada, Iowa, Western, Kansas, and North Carolina Yearly Meetings.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read and approved and it was concluded to reappoint Jonathan Chace, Amos O. Foster, Anna H. Chace, Emma H. Tucker, Sarah F. Wilbur, Jesse R. Tucker, Mary P. Foster, Charles Perry, Lydia F. Nichols, Job S. Gidley, Susanna W. Gidley, Elizabeth P. Foster, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Isabelle L. Gifford, and Arthur Perry to constitute the Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting, together with the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting. The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign the same on its behalf.

Charles Perry of Westerly R. I. and Job S. Gidley of North Dartmouth Mass. are reappointed correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

We have now completed the business which has come before us, and under a sense of the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly Father, in granting His overshadowing love, we conclude, purposing to meet at this place at the usual time next year if consistent with the Divine Will.

Job S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary of the Answers to the Queries.

Ans 1st. All our meetings for religious worship and for discipline, with two exceptions, have been held. The meetings on First Days have been regularly attended by a few of our members when health permitted.

The mid week meetings and those for discipline are much neglected by some; The law is pretty well observed. There is but little appearance of sleep. Clear of other unbecoming behavior.

Ans 2nd Love and unity, we believe are well maintained and detraction guarded against. No differences have been brought to our attention.

Ans 3rd We believe that some Friends feel a concern to bring up those under their direction in plainness of speech, behavior, and apparel, to restrain them from pernicious reading and corrupt conversation, and desire to be good examples herein themselves. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in our families.

Ans 4th Friends are clear of the use of spirituous liquors except for medicinal purposes, and they generally avoid places of public resort, and observe moderation and temperance on most occasions.

Ans 5th There are none needing pecuniary aid. No children have been placed from among Friends.

Ans 6th Parents and heads of families are concerned that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline.

Ans 7th There are some of our members, who at times attend meetings where there is a paid ministry.

We believe Friends are clear in the other parts of this query.

Ans 8th We believe Friends are careful to inspect their farms and settle their accounts and are punctual to their promises and just in the payment of their debts and are careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances. One quarter however reports a want of care in observing the requirements of this query.

Ans 9th The records have been attended to. There has been one removed and one family has come to reside amongst us without certificates. Both of these cases have received some attention at different times and although some years have elapsed, in neither case is there a willingness as yet, to relinquish membership in the meeting to which they belong.

Ans 10th We think a concern is felt by Friends to deal with offenders in accordance with our discipline; but owing to our small numbers, this important duty is sometimes neglected.

No judgment has been placed since our last account.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends,

Your epistle of 9th mo. last has been received and read in our meeting, to the edification of Friends. Other epistles, also, we have received and we thank our Heavenly Father for the brotherly and sisterly love and concern, which was expressed in each of them for us. We feel that we are among the poor and needy of whom you speak, and we desire that we may learn to seek the living water, trusting that in the fullness of time when we shall have endured His burnings and overturnings, that our thirst may be slaked and our tongue loosened and be made to praise Him, our Father, our God, and our King

To this end we must, each one, submit ourselves to God's work in us;

"It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord"; "for the Lord will not cast off forever, but though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies. For he doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men." "Turn thou us unto thee O Lord, and we shall be turned; renew our days as of old."

May we hear the voice of the Lord, saying unto us "Fear not for I am with thee, be not dismayed for I am thy God" Then shall we be able to say, "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear, The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid."

With a salutation of that love which is in Christ Jesus we are your friends.

To Canada Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends;

Your message of tender counsel and encouragement has been heard in our Yearly Meeting with a feeling of gratitude that our Heavenly Father had prompted you to speak to us thus comfortingly, for we have felt in peculiar need, at this time, of the administration of such as are permitted to bring good tidings to our fainting spirits.

If it is right for the followers of Christ to bear one another's burdens, it is also a blessed privilege to divide with each other the bread of life.

In sending us this helpful and uplifting epistle, you share with us a most precious possession. Though you are separated from us many miles, and we cannot see your face to face, yet your loving sympathy

bridges the distance, and your hand is outstretched to us in the fellowship of Christ our Master. For we are few in number, and often are poor in spirit, the consciousness of being held in this affectionate remembrance, gives greater patience to press forward in the face of discouragement. Though we do mourn with the Prophet of old and say "How doth the city sit solitary that was full of people!" Yet we verily know that if the Beloved of souls will come in and dwell with us, there will be no loneliness felt in our habitation. And if we look singly for His direction, He will walk before us, a Guide for our feet. The meek will He guide in judgment, and the meek will He teach His way. Therefore, we trust it may be our desire to walk humbly before Him, and to crave that He will yet make use of us for His own good and holy purpose.

He has, indeed, blessed us many times, in the visits of His servants, who have remembered to minister unto us, and have left with us a portion of spiritual food for our refreshment.

Even at this time, it has been so, and we gratefully acknowledge the goodness of the Giver of all good both in sending unto us these ministers, and these letters of affectionate greeting and counsel.

With the hope that we may not wholly fail to keep that which is committed to our trust, but may all grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we commend you to His grace, and remain your friends.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends

We have again met together at our annual meeting and you have been brought very near to us by the reading of

your epistle with the others received from those with whom we correspond, and we are glad to know of your prosperous condition, and hope it may continue as you are kept under the influence and direction of the great Head of the Church.

May you with us be enabled to let our light so shine that others seeing our good works may glorify our Father in Heaven. That our paths, though they may lead through much that is a cross to the flesh, may be the means of our receiving that peace, which He has promised his followers, that is more precious than silver or gold. We have at this time, several dear friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose company and gospel labors have been comforting and encouraging to us, and may we heed their tender counsels and advice, believing that they flow from the Fountain of Living Waters.

The reading of the queries and answers thereto brings before our view the fact that there is much that might be improved by watchfulness and obedience to the requirements of that Teacher that teaches as never man taught, and is ever ready and willing to aid and succor those who feel as though they had no strength of their own, and that without Him they could do nothing.

Though widely separate as to habitation we do feel a nearness to you in the spirit, and trust the day will come when by the mercies of our dear Redeemer we may, if faithful in our places, be permitted to walk together in that city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

To Western Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:

Another year has rolled away and we have been mercifully

permitted to meet again in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting and while we came together with misgivings as to our ability to transact the business which might be placed before us to the honor of Truth, yet as we sought for holy help it was graciously granted and we have been enabled to do that which was required at our hands, we hope in an acceptable manner to Him who is the Master of assemblies. And as we pass on our way may none of us mistake our own will for the will of God and thus be led into creaturely activity which will not avail anything toward the increase of Truth and righteousness in the earth.

A desire to do good, nor even what may seem to our natural view as a favorable opportunity for it, is not a sufficient qualification for us to act, nor is it for us to decide how much good we may or may not be doing, but it rests with us only whether we are doing just what our Lord and Master would have us to do, in His own way and in His own time. What may seem to us short sighted mortals as likely to do the most good may do the very least, and that which we think the least of may accomplish by far the most; and for some restless impatient ones it may be harder to submit to quiet and patient waiting for the Master's bidding to go forward, and such are often tempted to put forth the hand unbidden.

We have several dear Friends with us at this time from different Yearly Meetings whose company and labors we trust, are appreciated as they deserve.

The epistles from the different Yearly Meetings have come to us as messengers of love and tokens of interest in our welfare, and as such are warmly welcomed. We feel a desire beyond what words will express that the dear young Friends may be surrounded to give up to consider the things which belong to their peace before they are

hidden from their eyes. A sacrifice in the morning of life is made more easily than if deferred until the mind is encumbered with the things of this transitory world and may nothing seem too precious to be laid aside at the call of Him who doeth all things well. And we would ask all this for our own young people as well as for those within your borders.

And now dear Friends, in a feeling of that love which should bind us all together, desiring for all as well as for ourselves an establishment on the everlasting foundation even Jesus Christ, by and through the revelation of his Holy Spirit in the secret of every soul.

Desiring that we may know a growth in grace we bid you an affectionate farewell

To Kansas Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:-

Being assembled together in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, we feel, in the love of God to salute you, desiring to share with you, our joy and consolation in the gospel of Christ.

And though we feel we are the least of the flock; still we are concerned, as ability is given, to hold up the banner of Truth, in its pristine purity, in this part of the Lords heritage, and we can of a truth say that whereas we came to this place to hold our Yearly Meeting, in fear and much trembling yet God has blessed us together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, and being sustained by His everlasting arms, we have been enabled to transact the business claiming our attention in harmony for which favor we feel to exclaim in the language of the great Apostle "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift". For we have no might nor power of our own whereby we can do any good thing;

There are a few ministering Friends from other Yearly Meetings with us who have been led to speak to our condition in words of sympathy, words of good cheer, and those of encouragement, which have been comforting and strengthening to us, and have been as a brook by the way; reminding us of the declaration, "And He showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb."

The periods of silent waiting were felt to be refreshing seasons of Divine favor times when each soul might commune with the Lord Jehovah, in whom is everlasting strength.

The answers to the queries, as read, brought to light our many deficiencies and short comings. O may we heed the words of warning which have been spoken, at this time, "in demonstration of the Spirit and of power" and be made willing to "put on the whole armor of God that we may withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand," and be so strengthened that if our lives are spared we may be able to build up the walls of our Zion that are fallen down, each one beginning to build around his own door.

And "I beseech you brethren by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service" Yea, turn your minds inward and commune with the perfect Teacher in your own hearts, and wait upon Him till you are so filled with His love that when He directs any of you to speak unto the people your harps will give forth no uncertain sound; and furthermore if you abide in Him and His words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you; and you will be moulded and fashioned to occupy that position in the militant Church designed by the Divine Architect.

Dear brothers and sisters we desire these things for ourselves as well as for you,

We now bid you farewell, and may the Lord

God keep and preserve you", and us, "in that which was from the beginning and will endure unto the end, that in that ye may flourish and grow as the lily of the valley, and "be like a tree planted by the rivers of water."

To Iowa Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:

It seems at times as though we were too few in number properly to hold a Yearly Meeting, and yet from year to year we have been favored to gather under a covering of Divine Goodness, and to transact the business which comes before us in unity and with some degree of dignity and authority. We have had visiting Friends with us, at this time, from a distance who have been exercised in our behalf, and the acceptable epistles received from you and from other Yearly Meetings have added strength and comfort.

During the sittings of the Meeting the exhortation which is repeated again and again in the second and third chapters of Revelations has come clearly to the view of some of us as peculiarly appropriate and applicable to the Society of Friends when assembled in meetings for worship, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches" For there should be no assembly with more openness of heart, or with a more sensitive spiritual ear than one which gathers in stillness and in living silence to wait upon the Lord, that He himself may speak to the condition of each individual member. This great privilege however carries with it equally great responsibility that one wait for qualification, and that after he is endued with power from on High he give the message in its simplicity and its purity - not running before nor holding back. If this be not the covering of our meetings oral utterance interrupts - true

communion whilst under such an overshadowing, there is no gathering more open for worship and for praise.

We feel to rejoice with you and with all with whom we are in correspondence, yea, with all where ever they may be and by whatsoever name they may be called, who acknowledge and who practice such a way of worship to rejoice not in self righteousness or in self exaltation, but rather in thankfulness and humility of spirit, and in wonder at the marvelous goodness of God to the children of men. With such a vision of privilege and of responsibility, why should we not be strong even in the face of discouragement? "Why art thou cast down O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God" Such is our salutation and our greeting and our prayer for you and ourselves is that we may be preserved from error, and that we may keep our most holy faith, not in vain glorying, but continuing to be strengthened in the inner man. "Till we all come into the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ"

Job S. Gidley Clerk

At New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly, Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First Day, the 5th of Sixth Month, 1910, and Second Day the 6th with those for Discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting, viz.: From Rhode Island Quarter, Abby N. Gardner Charles Perry, Lydia F. Nichols, Amos O. Foster, and Eunice B. Clark.

From Sandwich Quarter, Job S. Gidley, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Jesse R. Tucker, Sarah E. Mitchell, James H. Tucker, and Susanna N. Gidley, whose names being called they are all present but one for whose absence a satisfactory reason was given.

We appoint our Friends Amos O. Foster and Jesse R. Tucker to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting, and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

Epistles received from Canada, Western, Iowa, Ohio, Kansas, and North Carolina Yearly Meetings of Friends were read at this time, and we appoint Abby N. Gardner, Job S. Gidley, Eunice B. Clark, Mary P. Foster, Anna H. Chace, James H. Tucker, Charles Perry, Eunice B. Nichols, and Elizabeth G. Wilbur to prepare essays of replies to these letters, if way opens for it, and produce them at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We appoint our Friends Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Gertrude E. Foster, Charles Perry, and Amos O. Foster to prepare a Summary of the answers to the queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time, and it was concluded to reappoint Jonathan Chace, Amos O. Foster, Anna H. Chace, James H. Tucker,

Sarah F. Wilbur, Jesse R. Tucker, Mary P. Foster, Charles Perry, Lydia F. Nichols, Bob S. Gidley, Susanna W. Gidley, Elizabeth P. Foster, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Eunice B. Nichols, Isabelle L. Gifford, and Arthur Perry to constitute the Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk for the ensuing year, and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Second Day afternoon, at about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned. Men and Women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called they were present except two.

Amos C. Foster, on behalf of the representatives, reported that they had met, and that they were united in proposing the name of Bob S. Gidley for Clerk and Mary J. Foster for Assistant-Clerk.

Their names being separately considered, both nominations were approved, and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year, or until others are appointed in their places.

The State of Society was entered upon by the reading of the Queries, with answers thereto, from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings. A Summary of the answers, prepared by the committee named at our morning sitting, was also read, and the Clerk is directed to record the same.

Adjourned to the third hour Third Day afternoon.

Third Day afternoon the 7th, at about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned,

Men and Women Friends again assembled

The names of the representatives being called, they were present as at our first sitting.

The Committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting, and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, make the following report;

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the Treasurer's account have attended to that service and find the account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed. They find a balance of twelve hundred and forty-eight and 93/100 $1,248.93) dollars on hand, and they are united in proposing the name of Harvey C. Perry for Treasurer for the ensuing year. Amos O. Foster for the Committee.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is reappointed Treasurer for the ensuing year, or until another appointment.

One of the members of the Book and Tract Committee reported that a few books and tracts have been distributed during the past year.

It was concluded to reappoint James H. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Charles Perry, Elizabeth P. Foster, Anna H. Chace, Sarah F. Wilbur, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Anna A. Gardner, Emma A. F. Perry, Gertrude E. Foster, and Sarah E. Mitchell a committee to procure such books and tracts as, in their judgment they think most desirable for distribution, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

The essays of Epistles prepared by the Committee named at the first sitting of this Meeting were read and approved.

and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Ohio, Canada, Iowa, Western Kansas, and North Carolina Yearly Meetings.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting, together with the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting.

The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign the same on its behalf.

Charles Perry of Westerly, Rhode Island, and Job S. Gidley of North Dartmouth, Mass. are reappointed correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

We have now completed the business which has claimed our attention in much harmony and with great condescension, and with thanks giving to our Father in Heaven for His watchful care over us, we conclude purposing to meet at this place at the usual time next year, if consistent with the Divine Will.

Job S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary of Answers to the Queries.

Ans. 1st Q. All our meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held but one. Those on First-days pretty well attended by most Friends.

Those on week days and some of those for business, not so well attended. The hour observed.

Friends are mostly preserved from sleeping, clear of other unbecoming behavior.

Ans. 2nd Q. Love and unity are maintained in a good degree. Detraction is guarded against.

No difference have come to our notice.

Ans 3rd Some Friends are concerned to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech, behavior, and apparel, to restrain them from reading pernicious books and from the corrupt conversation of the world; and to be good examples herein themselves.

Yet more care in these respects is needful, The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends' families.

Ans 4th Clear of the use of Spirituous liquors except for medicine, Friends generally avoid places of public resort, and observe moderation and temperance on most occasions.

Ans 5th None needing assistance, No children placed from among Friends.

Ans 6th We believe parents and heads of families are desirous that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline.

Two cases of marriage with those who are not members, and one instance of keeping company with one not a member with view to marriage.

Ans 7th Some of our members attend meetings where there is a paid ministry. Clear in the other parts of this query.

Ans 8th We believe Friends are careful to inspect their affairs, and to settle their accounts; are mostly punctual to their promises, and just in the payment of their debts. Most Friends are careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans 9th Friends are careful as to records, No removals since our last account.

Ans 10th We believe candor reigns with Friends & deal with offenders when necessary as discipline requires, but more care, and a deeper concern in this regard would be desirable.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting,

Dear Friends—

Both of your epistles of 9th month last have been comforting and instructive.

All of the epistles which we have received from the different Yearly Meetings within the circle of our correspondence seem to speak unto us the same language—an evidence that God still doth qualify His children in the different parts of His heritage to write to their brothers and sisters epistles, which when read will bring consolation.

We were made to feel sad when we heard of the great loss that you had sustained by the burning of the fine school building situated near Barnesville Ohio, and we send you our heartfelt sympathy, Yet there is ground for rejoicing and for rendering thanksgiving to our Father in Heaven that there were no precious lives lost in the conflagration.

And if this disaster, in the working of inscrutable Wisdom, shall be one of the means, whereby the members of the Yearly Meetings now in correspondence may be led to take a greater interest in the welfare of our Society and more faithful as individuals working together in greater harmony in maintaining all of our precious testimonies in their ancient truth and purity—and all of us become industriously engaged in gathering up the fragments that remain that nothing may be lost, then this seeming calamity may prove to be a blessing in disguise.

One of the Prophets has written "Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob and He

will teach us of his ways and we will walk in His paths" And the Psalmist says "Who is like unto the Lord our God, who dwelleth on high, Who humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven and in the earth"

And O, Dear Friends, may we and you be brought, by the power of God into that state and condition of true humility before Him when we too can say "Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord"

There are no ministers from other Meetings, at this time with credentials, but there are a few visiting Friends without credentials whose solid deportment and labors of love have been to us "as a brook by the way"

A precious canopy of God's love overspread the various sittings of the Yearly Meeting and the business claiming our attention was conducted in much harmony and great condescension.

With much love we will say farewell.

To Western Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:—

Through the unmerited mercy of our Heavenly Father, we have been permitted to meet once more in a Yearly Meeting capacity, and while we felt that poverty was our portion, and of ourselves we could do no good thing, we were led to seek for Best Help to enable us to perform our allotted part and transact the business in love and unity.

Your epistle with those from the other Yearly Meetings with which we correspond have been read in our hearing, and they all were comforting and instructive. We hope the good counsel may not be unheeded and may the dear young Friends be willing to

take up the cross in the morning of life, and serve their Heavenly Master who is asking to have them as His followers here, and companions hereafter, which will be granted to those who serve Him aright.

We are few in number, and feel that we are poor in spirit, but the few may serve as well as the many, and we have the promise that where two or three are gathered together in the Father's name to worship Him there He will be in the midst of them.

Ours was a goodly heritage as it came to us from our forefathers, but we have, through unfaithfulness allowed it to become but a mere remnant of what it was when it came to us. Oh that we could be aroused to the effort, to be as our predecessors were, then might the walls of our Zion be builded anew, the barren fields cultivated and a new people arise to occupy the same.

The company of the few Friends who have come to us this year, and their messages have seemed as a brook by the way, and we desire that their words of wisdom and tender and loving counsel may be remembered by us for good as we go to our several homes.

In the bonds of true christian fellowship we remain your friends.

To Iowa Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends.

We have read the epistles received from the different Yearly Meetings with which we correspond with grateful hearts. Their messages of admonition of love and encouragement have been felt to be from the right source, and we have experienced something of that spiritual life, flowing as from vessel to vessel, and drawing us together into one family to worship and praise His Holy Name.

Although our numbers are small, still we have been made to realize the truth of His promise "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them"

The religious Society which we represent has great opportunities for work in the Lords vineyard, but how few there are who are ready to say "Lord, what will thou have me to do?"

Selfishness in our hearts hinders and destroys that which, if nourished, would spring up and bear good grain.

We remember how Paul was converted and was raised up to confound the Jews, saying, "My speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of mans wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of Power, That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God".

If we therefore stand in the wisdom of men, how can we live in the power of God?

We would unite with you in prayer that we may be fed with milk, and not with meat, until we are able to bear it, that we may not be deceived, and that we may labor in the power of His Spirit with meekness and wisdom.

If unfaithful to the admonitions of His Spirit, how can we break bread and offer it to others?

May we, and you be found faithful in maintaining these principles of truth delivered to us by the Saints, and "think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you as though some strange thing happened unto you."

"But rejoice inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christs sufferings; that when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."

Dear brothers and sisters we do love you in the gospel, and pray for you and for ourselves that the work given us to do may be done acceptably in His sight.

And now in the words of the apostle Paul. "Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you"

With love unfeigned we are your friends.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

Your letter, so full of love and sympathy has tendered our hearts, and the desire has arisen that we with you may "press towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" our Lord, until we are able to put on the whole armor of righteousness.

We came together feeling that we had neither gold, or frankincense, or myrrh to bring unto our Lord, but desiring to be willing to sit at His feet and be taught.

There are many things which we might, in our human helplessness, ask for you, and for ourselves, - But we have remembered the answer of the Master to that devoted mother who was pleading with him, that her two sons might sit, the one upon his right hand and the other upon his left; in the kingdom, "Ye know not what ye ask, are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They thought they could, but the continued lesson repeats the teaching that we must know what we ask or our petitions will not avail.

Our numbers so few as to have been compared to a grain of mustard seed, we were told if rightly planted may yet become as the leaven which leavened the whole measure.

We have been favored, at this time, by

the presence of several Friends from other Yearly Meetings who have been enabled to give of the treasures which have been vouchsafed them from the bountiful storehouse. May we gather into the garner all that has been so freely given. Truths are never new, but as they come to us from different vessels they often shine forth as in new garments.

For these and the kindly admonitions to faithfulness we feel to give thanks as did one of the ten lepers that was healed, who returned, and with a loud voice glorified God.

The Queries which have come to us as a legacy from worthies - and we doubt not by inspiration, have been spoken of, and their value testified to in a way that has been instructive, causing us to appreciate, more fully, the value of our inheritance, and may, we trust, stimulate us to more watchful care in regard to them.

Now trusting that the bond of union between us may continue we remain, in love your friends.

To Canada Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:-

Another year has slipped away into the past which returns to us no more, and the time of our Annual gathering has come bringing the usual duties to be performed; and while we realize that we were but poorly qualified for the work which was before us, we craved that we might be granted the needful help to transact the business which came before us to the honor of Truth and the great Head of the Church; and we feel that a measure of strength has been afforded, and we have been helped on the way each day, as the duties presented.

Our hearts go out to you in love and sympathy in your bereavement, caused by the removal of two of your valued members, from

works to rewards, but we believe your loss is their eternal gain; and we can but hope their mantle have fallen on those worthy to take up the burdens laid down by the departed ones. We also rejoice with you in the rebuilding of your meeting house, which was so suddenly taken from you two years ago.

Your epistle, with the others within the circle of our correspondence, has been received and read to our comfort and instruction, and may we profit thereby. But few Friends have come to us from other Meetings this year, but those who are with us, we believe were sent by our Heavenly Father for our help and comfort, and their messages have been such as we could welcome and appreciate.

May the seed which has been scattered amongst us, in the way of advice and admonition, sink deep in our every heart, and may it be taken to our homes and not allowed to slip away from our hearts - leaving them as a barren waste - but may the good seed flourish, and remain as a help in our daily lives, enabling us so to live, that we may be acceptable to our divine Master in our walk among our fellow men, and be exemplary as Christians and followers of the meek and lowly Jesus. And now in Christian love, which knows no bounds, we are your Friends.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

Having gathered again in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, we have been reminded, by the reading of the very impressive Epistles from the different Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, that the great Head of the Church will lead all His followers by a new and living way to that City where there is no darkness, for the glory of God doth lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

We were also reminded of one of the Apostles who went up to Jerusalem to confer with those

who were of reputation, lest by any means he should run, or had run in vain, and how he found that He who had wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, was the same who had been mighty in him towards the Gentiles, and both were led to remember the poor.

May we all walk obediently to the leadings of the Spirit that we may avoid all strife and evil, and dig deep and lay our foundation on that Rock from which we shall not be moved; having our lamps prepared for the coming of the Bridegroom and be on the watch for His appearing.

With love that knows no bounds, we are your friends.

Jos S. Gidley Clerk.

1911

At New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly, Rhode Island commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First Day, the 4th of Sixth Month, 1911. and Seconday the 5th with Men for Discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this Meeting, viz;

From Rhode Island Quarter, Abby H. Gardner, Anna C. Foster, Eunice B. Clark, Thomas Perry, and Mary J. Fowler

From Sandwich Quarter Susanna W. Gidley, Mary Anna Oliver Sarah E. Hilliard, Mary E. Tobey, Joanna H. Tower, Jos S. Gidley and Jesse R. Tucker, whose names being called they are all present but one. A satisfactory reason was given for the absence of one of them,

Our dear friend Joshua T. Smith, accompanied by Thomas Blackburn as his companion, attended this Meeting with a minute from Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Whittier Iowa, Fifth Month 20th 1911 endorsed by Hickory Grove Quarterly Meeting held at Coal Creek Iowa, Fifth Month 27th 1911; liberating him to visit, in the love of the Gospel, New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, and the Meetings composing it; also to visit two small Meetings in the State of New York and most of the Meetings of his own Yearly Meeting in the State of Iowa, and appoint a few Meetings and perform such other religious service as Truth may call for at his hands. He being a minister in unity with them.

This company and Gospel labors have been comforting and strengthening to us and the Clerk is authorized to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

Our dear Friend Cyrus W. Harvey attended this Meeting with a minute from Cottonwood Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Emporia, Kansas, Second Month, 13th 1909, endorsed by Cottonwood Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Damascus, near Wright, Second Month, 20th 1909, liberating him to pay a general visit in Gospel love to all who profess the name of Friends in this Lands, as part of this duty to attend New England, Philadelphia, and North Carolina Yearly Meetings of Friends, and labor in and be exercised in Truth's service throughout the compass of these Meetings as the Divine guidance of the Holy Spirit may lead and open the way.

Our dear Friend Cyrus W. Harvey also produced a minute from Cottonwood Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Emporia, Kansas, Fifth Month, 11th 1910, stating that as only a part of the work in the foregoing minute is completed, this Meeting is united in the belief that he should

retain this minute until the work is finished.
He being a minister in unity with them.

His ministry and Gospel labors have been comforting and strengthening and the Clerk is authorized to furnish him with a copy of this minute.

Our dear Friend Julianna Peele Harvey attended this Meeting as companion to her husband Cyrus H. Harvey with a minute from Rich Square North Carolina Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Cedar Grove, North Carolina Fifth Month 20th 1911, endorsed by Eastern Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Snow Hill, Green County North Carolina Fifth Month 27th 1911. She being a minister in good esteem amongst them.

Her company and Gospel labors have been comforting and strengthening to us, and the Clerk is authorized to furnish her with a copy of this minute.

We appoint our Friends James W. Oliver, Jesse L. Tucker and Anna C. Foster to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of this Meeting, and prepare the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

Epistles received from Ohio Yearly, Iowa Yearly, Kansas Canada and North Carolina Yearly Meetings of Friends, were read at this time, containing words of encouragement and good cheer.

May they be to us as seed falling upon good ground that will bring forth fruit that shall remain. We appoint our Friends Mary C. Foster, James H. Tucker, Bob S. Gidley, Frances T. Swindon, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Arthur Perry, James W. Oliver, Lucy N. Foster, Emma B. Clark, Horace B. Foster and Ada N. Gardner to prepare ways of replies to these letters, if way opens for it, and produce them at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We appoint our Friends William T. Oliver Anna C. Foster, Mary E. Foster, Mary Anna Oliver

and Charles Perry to prepare a Summary of the answers to the queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk, and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk for the ensuing year, and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Second Day afternoon, at about the hour to which the Meeting was adjourned, Men and Women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called, they were present as at our first sitting.

Jesse R. Tucker, on behalf of the representatives, reported that they had met, and they were united in proposing the name of Job S. Gidley for Clerk, and Allen J. Foster for Assistant Clerk.

Their names being separately considered, both nominations were approved of, and they are accordingly appointed for those services respectively, for the ensuing year, or until others are appointed in their places.

The Queries were read at this time, with answers thereto, from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings, and a Summary thereof having been prepared by the committee named at the morning sitting, was also read, and the Clerk is directed to record the same.

While considering the state of Society as shown by the answers to the Annual Queries, the minds of Friends were brought under a concern for the removal of such deficiencies as were shown by this examination, and an earnest engagement was felt and expressed that our allegiance to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ might be manifested by the attendance of

all our Meetings both for worship and discipline,

We were fully assured of the truth of the language, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty"

The committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting to examine the Treasurer's account and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year made the following report,

The committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's account, find the account has been correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed, and find the balance to be $1,300,42, and they are united in proposing the name of Harvey C. Perry as Treasurer for another year.

James M. Oliver
In the Committee.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is re appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year, or until another appointment.

Adjourned to the third hour, Third Day afternoon.

Third Day afternoon, the 6th A about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned, Men and Women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called they were all present but one.

The records of the Meetings Sufferings were read at this time and approved and it was concluded to re appoint Jonathan Chace, Amos C. Foster, Anna H. Chace James H. Tucker, Sarah F. Wilbur, Jesse R. Tucker, Henry P. Foster, Charles Perry, Lydia F. Nichols Robert L. Gilley, Suzanna M. Gilley Elizabeth P. Foster, Elizabeth G. Wilbur Eunice B. Nichols Isabelle L. Gifford and Arthur Perry, and to appoint Lucy M. Foster, Horace B. Foster, James M. Oliver, Abby M. Gardner, Mary C. Foster, Mary Anna Oliver and Anna L. Gardner to constitute the Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

It was concluded to reappoint Emma H. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Charles Perry, Elizabeth S. Foster, Anna H. Chace, Sarah F. Wilbur, Elizabeth S. Wilbur, Anna A. Gardner, Emma A. S. Perry, Gertrude E. Foster, and Sarah E. Mitchell and to appoint Susanna H. Lamson, Emma M. Oliver, Francis T. Lamson, and Mary E. Foster a committee to procure such Books and Tracts as in their judgment are most desirable for distribution, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expenditure incurred.

The essays of Epistles prepared by the committee named at the first sitting of this Meeting were read and approved, and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Ohio, Western, Iowa, Kansas, Canada and both Carolina Yearly Meetings.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting together with the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting.

The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign the same on its behalf.

Charles Perry of Westerly Rhode Island and Job S. Gidley of North Dartmouth, Mass. are appointed correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

We have now completed the business which has claimed our attention in a remarkable degree of harmony, and when we separate to return to our several homes may we carry with us Spirits of peace.

We now conclude, purposing to meet at this place at the usual time next year if consistent with the Divine Will.

Job S. Gidley Clerk

1911.

Summary of Answers to the Queries.

Ans. 1st. All our Meetings for religious worship and those for discipline have been diligently attended by a portion of our members whose health permitted, but the week-day Meetings and some of those for business are much neglected by them.

The time is pretty well observed by most Friends, As clear of sleep, Clear of other unbecoming behavior.

Ans. 2nd. Love and unity are, we believe, in a good degree maintained and detraction guarded against.

A few differences have been brought to our notice.

Ans. 3rd. We believe that some Friends feel a concern to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel, to restrain them from pernicious reading and corrupt conversation, also to be good examples herein themselves; yet a deeper concern in these respects is needful.

We think that the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends families.

Ans. 4th. Clear of the use of Spirituous liquors except for medicine, Friends generally avoid places of public resort, and observe moderation and temperance on such occasions.

Ans. 5th. We have no poor needing assistance, Our children freely partake of learning, and none kept from among Friends.

Ans. 6th. Parents and heads of families are concerned that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline. One marriage with one not a member.

Ans. 7th. There are some of our members who at times attend Meetings where there is a paid ministry. We believe clear in the other parts of this query.

2nd M. We believe most Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, that they are punctual to their promises and just in the payments and are careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

2nd P. Friends are careful to have all their marriages, births, deaths and burials duly recorded.
Two removals with certificates.

2nd M. We believe a concern is still felt by some among us that the good order required by discipline should be maintained, but hindering things seem to be in the way of its accomplishment.
No dealing or placing of judgment since our last account.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings

To this Yearly Meeting of Friends
Dear Friends:-
We acknowledge with grateful hearts the reception of your two epistles written, as we believe in Christian love and fellowship, and making us to realize afresh the overshadowing power and favor of Divine Goodness.
We, together with you, are concerned that the sending of Epistles shall not become a mere form, but that they shall be living epistles, each meeting thereby ministering, in a measure, to the needs of the other and confirming, and strengthening the ties that bind us in a common faith, and a common testimony. The right qualification for ministry, and the conviction of early Friends with regard thereto have been freshly brought to view in our meeting with the desire that we may not bring reproach or dishonor upon our high profession, and calling as a religious Society, through misapprehension as to the gifts, or through the wrong exercise of them,

The words of the Master himself have been called to mind - spoken to his disciples after his resurrection - "Behold I send the promise of my Father upon you, but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high." Waiting for the Divine commission - attention unto its guidance - the embassadors of Christ will be given the message in simplicity, in purity, in clearness, and in truth, and it will find lodgment in the minds of hearers, and a helpful response in their hearts.

We have felt it to be evidence of Divine Favor that ministers from Kansas, Ohio, and North Carolina have been present with ministers from their respective Yearly Meetings, and that other concerned Friends from a distance have felt drawn in unusual numbers to attend our Yearly Meeting, and to minister to us by their words, by their presence, and by their loving sympathy.

We are thankful also for our increased membership, and added spiritual gifts through the coming into Sandwich Quarter of an Unlimited Monthly Meeting.

Our Yearly Meeting has been held in harmony, and in unity, and while in considering the state of Society we have been obliged to acknowledge short comings, we have nevertheless felt from time to time, the covering of the Divine Presence.

And now as we separate, our hearts desire for you and for us is that we may live so close to the Master that we shall hear, and know His voice, and be given strength, and grace to follow its leading, until we shall "see eye to eye" and feel to exclaim with the apostle "for me to live is Christ" This will come to pass not through vain glorying, but through humility,

self sacrifice, obedience—and above all, through the mercy, grace, and infinite love of God,

And may His peace rest upon and abide with you and with us ever more,

To Western Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends:—

The reading of your acceptable epistle has revived the hope and desire for a closer walk with God—and as he has promised to teach the meek of his ways and to guide such in his paths—we feel the necessity to get into the valley of humility and there abide. When Israel was a little child, then God loved him—called my son out of Egypt. We believe the lovable and teachable child will know more of this as he or she submits to the refining and purifying influences of Divine Grace. Here will be verified "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye."

And Oh, dear Friends when the call comes to us to leave Egypt let us also leave the flesh pots the leeks and the garlics there; there must be no looking back to the land of darkness—with such God can take no delight"

That marvelous light—which led Israel to the land of promise is to be our light;

Some other will answer; and we may remember so long as that favored people remained where the Most High could say of them; "Israel is my sanctuary and Judah my dominion" they were the most favored people of earth. The loving visitation is to all, none are excluded, Then let us renew our diligence, and as the disciple said to Jesus "Lord renew our faith" This too is our necessity without which none can please God. It is only by the expressive language of our own conduct that we can truly say "come brother come sister let us go up to the house of the Lord. With a salutation of love we are Your friends.

1911

To Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends.

Dear Friends:-

On this our annual gathering our numbers have been increased by the addition of Nantucket Monthly Meeting, and the promise of old has been verified "Where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them and that Lord and blesse.

We have the acceptable company of several from other Yearly Meetings both with and without ministers, whose company and gospel labors are comforting and instructive to us and we have been encouraged to forget those things which are behind and press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus; to do our work while it is called today for the night cometh when no one can work.

The dear young people are remembered at this time with living desires that they give up to serve the Lord in the days of their youth while the evil day come not nor the years draw nigh when they shall say I have no pleasure in them, for God shall bring every work into judgement with every secret thing whether it be good or whether it be evil.

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter "Fear God and keep his commandments for this is the whole duty of man."

Your epistle was read with the others received from the different Yearly Meetings with which we correspond & our comfort and edification.

With a salutation of love we remain your friends.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting of Friends
Dear Friends:-

Once again we have, through mercy extended to us, by our Heavenly Father been permitted to gather as a Yearly Meeting to transact the business which may come before us, but we could but feel our unworthiness and a poverty of spirit knowing that of ourselves we could do no good thing, and only as Best Help might be extended, could we hope to conduct the affairs of the Yearly Meeting to the honor of Truth and the Great Head of the Church, we felt to ask for the needful help which we believe has been afforded us beyond what we deserve.

Discouragements are often our portion, Some of our meetings for worship are very few in numbers, but if we meet in the right Spirit we are assured that our Lord and Saviour will be with us. May we profit by these seasons and be enabled so to live that we may be acceptable in our walk among our fellow men and exemplary as Christians and followers of the meek and lowly Jesus. Epistles have been received and read from those Yearly Meetings with which we are in correspondence and the kind and loving counsel contained in them, also the encouragement extended is gratefully received by such as are concerned to uphold the principles and testimonies of Friends in their primitive purity, which are indeed very precious - and we hope will tend to strengthen the things that remain which sometimes seem almost ready to die.

Earnest desires are felt that we may be led to heed the true light in our individual hearts, also to strive more and more diligently to do His perfect will. "The Lord's arm is not shortened that it cannot save, nor his ear grown heavy that it cannot hear" every sincere and earnest petition from trusting hearts and more of a living faith in Him and obedient

to his will as made known to us in the secret of our hearts would receive a sure and rich reward. Would that there were more coming forward to take the vacant places among us, giving evidence of submission to the burning and preparing hand of the Great Master Builder for usefulness in His Church. But who may abide the day of His coming and who shall stand when He appeareth. For He is like a refiners fire and like fullers soap; And He shall sit as a refiner & purifier of silver; and He shall purify the sons of Levi and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness"

We have with us at this time, several Friends from distant Yearly Meetings, whose company, services and solid deportment have been very acceptable and instructive to us and having as we believe been divinely directed to us, seems evidence of the continued care love and oversight of our Heavenly Father.

May we be enabled to walk so carefully and consistently with our profession before our companions, that the examples our lives may speak with more emphasis to the world than aught that we could express with tongue or pen - and we desire to give all our influence to the cause of peace in the land, but human endeavors amount to but little except as the Lord puts forth and goes before.

With desires for your preservation and advancement and that of our own in the Truth we remain your friends

To Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:

Having been permitted once more to assemble in the capacity

of a Yearly Meeting we have been brought to a fresh remembrance of you and other dear friends by the reading of your loving epistles.

The cords in which bind we have, we feel, been strengthened, and desires have arisen both for you and ourselves, that we may be kept upon the one sure foundation, even Christ Jesus the Rock of Ages. That by watchfulness and prayer we may be preserved from everything that would destroy in the Holy Mountain of the Lord.

It is indeed encouraging to find the governments of two great nations about to enter into a treaty that would tend to banish war between them. While the principle of peace as we know it to be, is not fully recognized, still our hearts should be filled with gratitude that the Spirit of our Lord has in such a measure visited our people.

Let us then dear Friends hold fast all our testimonies, for they sprang from the same root, even "Christ within the hope of glory"

Our meetings have been well attended at this time. We have with us a number of visiting friends whose gospel labors and company have been very strengthening to us, and our hearts have been touched and we feel that we have been baptised into the one spirit by the renewed visitation of the Dayspring from on high.

We rejoice with you in having once more a comfortable place to meet.

With a salutation of that love which time nor distance cannot lessen we remain your friends

To North-Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends

Dear Friends:

In the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ we feel to address you desiring that you with us, and we with you might be earnestly engaged in maintaining all of our precious testimonies in their ancient truth and purity, even the "former testimonies" to which you are referred in your letter to us; and no one can ever do this without that power that cometh from Him who is able to save to the uttermost all that put their trust in Him.

But we cannot have this power until we heed the command given to the disciples by our crucified and risen Lord; "Tarry ye at Jerusalem until ye are endued with power from on high" And this "Jerusalem which is from above is the mother of us all"

We have had an evidence given us during the various sittings of our Yearly Meeting of what this power is able to do for those who are hungering and thirsting after righteousness.

A wonderful canopy of Gods love has been extended over all, and for this Divine favor we trust we are sufficiently thankful to the Giver of every perfect gift. We have been blessed together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. We can also say with you that "an unusual number of the Lords servants and handmaidens from other Yearly Meetings" are with us. Three of these from yours.

God has been good to us to enable so many to attend our little Yearly Meeting, although quite a little larger than last year year owing to a Monthly Meeting having been joined to one of our Quarterly Meetings

The streams of gospel love flowed freely, and we trust that all of us will be profited thereby and endeavor to be more faithful

in doing what may be required at our hands.

When the answers to the queries were read showing our many deficiencies and short comings, we were exhorted to double our diligence that we may make our calling and election sure.

O may you and ourselves be made willing to present our bodies a living sacrifice holy and acceptable unto God which is our reasonable service. And if those under our name would carry out individually the injunction "Be ye not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds, that ye may prove what that good, perfect and acceptable will of the Lord is, how quickly would all be brought into unity of spirit and the bond of peace.

O may the day soon dawn when we shall see eye to eye when the dividing in Jacob and scattering in Israel shall come to an end, when judges shall be raised up as at the first and counsellors as at the beginning, then will our Society "come up out of the wilderness leaning on the arm of the Beloved of souls clear as the sun, fair as the moon and terrible as an army with banners"

Then there would appear the "nursing fathers and mothers" of which you and all of us feel the need of.

O may you and we turn our minds inward to the waiting place and see if power will not be bestowed in accordance with all our needs.

Desiring the eternal welfare of your never dying souls we remain your friends

Pot & Tidby Clerk.

At our New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly, Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First Day, the 9th of Sixth Month, 1912, and on Second Day, the 10th, with a Meeting for Discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this meeting, viz:

From Rhode Island Quarterly, Emma B. Clark, Amos O. Foster, Charles Perry, Mary J. Foster and Anna H. Chace.

From Sandwich Quarterly, Ann C. Foster, Horace B. Foster, Isabelle L. Gifford, Mary Anna Oliver, and Jesse E. Tucker, whose names being called they are all present but two, for whose absence satisfactory reasons were given.

Our dear Friend Benjamin F. Brown attended this Meeting with a minute from Rich Square Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Cedar Grove, Northampton Co., N. C. Fifth Month, 18th 1912, endorsed by Eastern Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Snow Hill Chowan Co., N. C. Fifth Month 26th 1912 liberating him to visit in the love of the Gospel, New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Westerly, Rhode Island, and Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Pickering, Ontario Canada, and the meetings constituting Scipio Quarterly Meeting of Friends New York with such other service as truth may call for, going and returning, he being a minister with whom they have unity.

His company, solid deportment and Gospel labors have been encouraging and strengthening to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute and sign it on our behalf.

Our dear Friend Rachel E. Cope, with her husband Charles Cope as her companion, attended this Meeting with a minute from New Garden Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Kimon Ohio, Fourth Month 25th 1912, endorsed by Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Salem Ohio,

Fifth Month 11th 1912, liberating her to visit in the love of the Gospel New England and Canada Yearly Meetings and some of the meetings composing them and if way open for it, to appoint one or two meetings, she being a minister with whom they have unity.

Their company, solid deportment and gospel labors have been encouraging and strengthening to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish them with a copy of this minute, and sign it on our behalf.

Our dear Friend Harry E. Moore attended this Meeting with a minute from Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends, Ohio, held the 24th day of the Fourth Month, 1912, endorsed by Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Salem, Ohio, the 11th of Fifth Month, 1912 liberating him to visit in Gospel love, New England and Canada Yearly Meetings and in such other religious service on the way going and returning as truth may seem to require, he being a minister in good standing with them.

His company, solid deportment and Gospel labors have been encouraging and strengthening to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute and sign it on our behalf.

Our dear Friend Joseph S. Leeds attended this Meeting as companion for our dear friend Harry E. Moore, with a minute from Chester Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Morristown, New Jersey the Sixth Day of Sixth Month, 1912, he being an elder in unity with them. His company and solid deportment have been encouraging and strengthening to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute, and sign it on our behalf.

Our dear Friend Carl Patterson attended this Meeting with a minute from Chesterfield Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Chesterhill, Ohio, the 20th of Fourth Month, 1912 endorsed by Pennville Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Plymouth, near Bartlett, Ohio the 25th of Fifth Month, 1912 liberating him to visit in the love of the Gospel, New England Yearly

Meeting of Friends, held at Westerly, Rhode Island; in being a minister in unity with them.

His company, solid deportment and Gospel labors have been encouraging and edifying to us; and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute, and sign it on our behalf.

Our dear Friend Jonathan Binns attended this Meeting as companion for our dear Friend Carl Patterson, with a minute from the Committee appointed by Pennsville Quarterly Meeting, he being an elder in good esteem among them.

His company and solid deportment have been encouraging and edifying to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of his minute and sign it on our behalf.

We appoint our Friends Horace B. Foster, Anna C. Foster, and Jesse R. Tucker, to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

Epistles received from Ohio, Western, Iowa, Kansas, Canada and North Carolina Yearly Meetings of Friends were read at this time.

During the reading of these letters from our distant Friends, a precious canopy overspread the Meeting and we were comforted together.

May the encouraging words contained in these missives stir us to greater faithfulness, to double our diligence that we may make our calling and election sure.

We appoint Robert L. Gidley, Arthur Perry, Susanna H. Grundon, Mary C. Foster, James H. Clover, Anna H. Chace, Emma H. Tucker, Eunice B. Clark, Horace B. Foster, Francis T. Grundon and Mary P. Foster to prepare a reply for it, essays or replies to these letters and produce them at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved, and it was concluded to reappoint Jonathan Chace,

Amos C. Foster, Anna H. Chace, James H. Tucker, Sarah A. Wilbur, Jesse R. Tucker, Mary P. Foster, Charles Perry, Lydia A. Nichols, Job S. Gidley, Susanna W. Gidley, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Eunice B. Nichols, Isabel L. Gifford, Arthur Perry, Lucy W. Foster, Horace B. Foster, James W. Oliver, Mary C. Foster, Mary Anna Oliver, and Anna A. Gardner, to constitute the Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

We appoint our Friends Amos C. Foster, James W. Oliver, Eunice B. Clark and Mary P. Foster, to prepare a Summary of the answers to the Queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and agree upon the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk, and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk, for the ensuing year, and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Second Day afternoon, at about the hour to which the Meeting was adjourned, men and women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called, they are present six at our first sitting.

Horace B. Foster, on behalf of the representatives, reported that they had met and that they were united in proposing the name of Job S. Gidley for Clerk and Mary P. Foster for Assistant Clerk.

Their names being separately considered, both suggestions were approved, and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year, or till others are appointed in their places.

The committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting to examine the communications spoken of in the Meeting have attended to that duty, and recommend that one of the communi-

coming be read and the other referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

A communication from the General Meeting held at Frilsby, England, the 1st and 2nd of Fifth Month, 1912, addressed to Nantucket Monthly Meeting, containing a message of love for us, was read at this time to our edification and comfort, and it is referred back to Nantucket Monthly Meeting for its acknowledgement.

The Essay entitled "A Synopsis of the Testimonies of the Society of Friends" prepared by a committee of the Yearly Meetings now in correspondence, has been read before our Meeting, and being deliberately considered was unitedly and fully approved, as embracing a concise declaration of the doctrines held by the Society of Friends, and the Clerk is directed to attach a copy of this minute to the document and sign the same on behalf of the Meeting.

The committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting to examine the Treasurer's account, and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, made the following report:

"The committee appointed by the Yearly Meeting to examine and settle the Treasurer's account have attended to that matter and find the account correctly kept, and the proper vouchers filed, and there is a balance on hand of one thousand one hundred and sixty eight and $\frac{42}{100}$ ($1,168.42) dollars, and they are united in recommending the name of Harvey C. Perry as Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Amos O. Foster for the Committee.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is re-appointed Treasurer for the ensuing year or until another appointment.

Adjourned to the third hour Third Day afternoon.

Third Day afternoon the 8th at about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned Men and Women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called, they were present as at our first sitting.

The Essays of Epistles, prepared by the committee named at the first sitting of this Meeting, were read and approved, and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Ohio, Western, Iowa, Kansas, Canada, and North Carolina Yearly Meetings.

The Queries were read at this time, with answers thereto, from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings, and a Summary thereof having been prepared by a committee before named, it was also read, and the Clerk is directed to record the same.

When the answers to the Queries were read in our Meeting showing our deficiencies, and many short comings, we were earnestly entreated, individually to seek for Divine help, that our condition may be improved. May these words sink deep into our hearts and bring forth fruit in honor of the Great Husbandman.

Books and Tracts

One of the committee reported that a few books and tracts had been distributed during the year.

It was concluded to reappoint James H. Tucker, Joel S. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Charles Perry, Anna H. Chace, Sarah H. Wilbur, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Anna A. Gardner, Emma A. F. Perry, Gertrude E. Foster, Sarah E. Mitchell, Susanna H. Gundon, James N. Oliver, Francis T. Gundon, and Mary E. Foster a committee to procure such books and tracts as, in their judgment are most desirable for distribution, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting together with the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting. The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign the same on its behalf.

Charles Perry of Westerly Rhode Island and Job S. Gidley of North Dartmouth Mass. are reappointed correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

We have been favored to attend to the business claiming our attention in near feelings of unity, and mutual condescension an evidence, as we humbly trust, of the presence of Him who is Head over all things to the Church.

So with fervent desires that we may be preserved upon that foundation which is immutable, even Christ Jesus, the Rock of Ages; and with a precious covering of sweet solemnity, we conclude, purposing to meet at this place at the usual time next year if consistent with the Divine Will.

Job S. Gidley Clerk

Summary of Answers to the Queries.

Ans 1st. All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held, except a few on account of sickness.

Meetings on First Days are pretty well attended. Mid week meetings and those for discipline are much neglected by a few. The hour is observed. Not clear of sleep. No other unbecoming behavior noticed.

Ans 2nd. Love and unity are, in a good degree maintained, and detraction is guarded against. No differences are known to exist.

Ans 3rd. Friends are careful and endeavor to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel; to restrain them from pernicious reading, and from

the corrupt conversation of the world, and endeavor to be good examples herein themselves; yet a deeper concern in these respects is needful. The Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends' families.

Ans. 4th. Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine, the unnecessary frequenting places of public resort, and keep in true moderation on most occasions.

Ans. 5th. There none needing pecuniary assistance. No children are placed from among Friends.

Ans. 6th. Parents and heads of families are careful that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline.

Ans. 7th. We believe Friends endeavor to maintain a faithful testimony in regard to the several parts of this query, except a few have attended meetings of other denominations.

Ans. 8th. As far as we know, Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, are punctual to their promises and just in the payment of their debts, and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9th. Friends are careful to have all their marriages, births, deaths and burials recorded; There have been two removals without certificates.

Ans. 10th. Friends are desirous to take due care in dealing with offenders; that it be done in the spirit of meekness, without partiality or much unnecessary delay; but owing to our small numbers we feel that the labors of love for their restoration is sometimes neglected.

There has been no placing of judgment since our last account.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings

To Ohio Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

While considering the Statement of the Principles and Testimonies of the Religious Society of Friends prepared by the joint committee of the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, we have renewedly and increasingly felt that our seven Yearly Meetings are inseparably bound together in one Hope and one faith.

We have had a fresh vision of the great privileges which are ours and the greatly great responsibility which goes with them, for faithfulness, for consecration to duty and for unfaltering testimony both oral and living, to the truth, "and this is the victory that overcometh the world even our faith"

We have also been humbled under a sense of our shortcomings, and our inability of ourselves to do any good thing; and our hearts have magnified the Lord and Saviour in whom and through whom alone we can be used in the upbuilding of His kingdom upon earth. In a measure of this spirit we have at this session of the Yearly Meeting been favored to wait from time to time silently upon Him, that He himself might minister strictly to the needs of each heart.

Some of us have been led to remember how our Saviour, Jesus Christ went away to the desert or to the mountain in time of special trial, far from earthly voices that He might uninterruptedly hear the voice of His Father in Heaven, and how he returned full of the Holy Ghost and of power to overcome the enemy and minister unto others.

Even so our beloved Society will be used of Him and owned by Him only as its members continually and insistently wait for his illuminating and indwelling power, and then are faithful to the heavenly vision. In the brightness of that vision we may have a sense of our own nothingness, and nevertheless

have the experience of the disciples of old when, "they said to one another Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while he opened unto us the scriptures"

If we have this experience nothing short of service can satisfy, we must of very necessity share it with others. How did not the hearts of George Fox, Stephen Grellet, John Woolman and others burn within them, with yearning and love for the salvation of all men. We may not have their experience in its fulness, but if faithful to the heavenly vision, if consecrated in life and deed, who shall measure or limit the possible service of the devoted follower of the Master! Amid the confusion and din of many voices and great outward activities of the time, the quiet, dignified, humble, silent gatherings of the Religious Society of Friends bear witness again and yet again to true spiritual worship, and to the reality of the deep, inward, nature of the Christian life and experience.

We have felt it to be under a sense of constraining love and of a deep desire for our welfare that the epistles from yours and from other Yearly Meetings have come to our little company of Friends, and we acknowledge with thankful hearts the warmth and helpfulness of the messages. We have been made aware also of the divine care in that so many ministers and friends from other Yearly Meetings have been drawn to come and sit with us in oral and in silent exercise of spirit, as living epistles.

We can humbly say that it is with a sense of the Divine covering that we salute you at this time and bid you an affectionate farewell, with prayerful hearts for your and for our own welfare and that of all men, through the grace, love and saving power of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

To Western Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:

Once more in a Yearly Meeting capacity we have been permitted to come together, though failing to be the least in our Father's house we have remembered that the sparrow is not forgotten, and as we have the promise of being of more value than many sparrows, we are strengthened by the love for the brethren, send you a token, not that we are abounding and can teach you of a more perfect way for we feel need most of all "Examine thyself with God." We are favored at this time with the company of some of the Lord's messengers and by their service the witness of Truth in many hearts has been reached.

The loving invitation of the Father to come, and as last has been sounded and we are persuaded there is no other way to the kingdom than by the cross - no entering in but by Christ the door. "Not every one who sayeth Lord, Lord shall enter into the kingdom, but they who do the will of my Father who is in heaven"; yes it is those dear friends who shall be counted worthy - and we find it a tribulated path. Let none be discouraged or turn aside for if we are sufficiently humble and obedient "He will teach us of his ways that we may walk in his paths"

For you dear young people and ours, we feel concerned that they may accept the Lord for their portion and in the bloom of youth yield to the dear Master's yoke which is so lined with love that it will become easy. Oh let us persuade you "The Lord loveth an early sacrifice". And dear friends when we collect for the purpose of religious worship let us remember that waiting upon God implies a time of patient looking for his coming and waiting to know his will and receive his orders. Willing and running and lustily intruding upon Him with expressions and utterances of our own is not waiting. David said "I waited patiently upon the Lord" the consequence was God heard his cry and inclined unto him.

Here was real experience and real discernment of the Divine operation increasing upon him as he waited patiently for it; and how graciously was he rewarded for he further says "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit out of the miry clay and set my feet upon a rock and established my goings." How true it is that "the steps of a good man are ordered of the Lord"; for indeed it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. This was David's experience, as he did not make haste, did not run of himself, but waited and that patiently upon God. He found his course directed, his steps ordered his goings established by the Lord himself and not his own wit or strength or creaturely striving. Your epistle was read to our satisfaction and we remain your friends.

To Dover Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

We have once more been permitted to assemble in a Yearly Meeting capacity and have been comforted and encouraged by the messages of love which have been received from different Yearly Meetings.

Our numbers are small and we feel the language "We are poor in Manasseh and least in our Father's house" applicable to our condition.

Several who were with us at our last annual gathering have been called to their everlasting rest, and their absence has been much felt. But we can thankfully acknowledge that the presence of the great Master of assemblies has not been wanting. A number of dear friends from other Yearly Meetings have been with us and the precious bread of life after being broken and blessed has been handed forth by his messengers, as we sat, as it were, in little companies to receive it. And we can also say there remained the twelve baskets of fragments to be gathered up.

There has been, we feel an increasing interest manifested by our younger members, and our desires are that they may be kept as in the hollow of

our Heavenly Father's hand, and by watchfulness and obedience to his inspecting Hand may know a growth in grace and the saving knowledge of our Saviour.

And dear Friends our hearts are tendered and we remember you who though separated by distance from us, are very near to us in the bonds of the Gospel.

We know that our unwearied adversary is even endeavoring to lay waste and destroy in the garden of the Lord.

May we all be diligent to make our calling and election sure by looking unto him who alone can save us, and endue us with that wisdom that is profitable to direct.

May we with you and you with us be favored to keep so near the Fountain of Living Water that we may indeed be the disciples of a meek and crucified Lord and Saviour.

Let all that is of self be laid low and all the tithes be brought into the store house, then may the windows of heaven be opened and a blessing be poured out, so that there would not be room to receive it.

Finally Brethren farewell, Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

Your Epistle of 10th month last was received and read to our edification and comfort.

With a salutation of love we remain your Friends.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:

We are again assembled in our Yearly Meeting and from the early part have been favored with the overshadowing of Divine love which has been perceptably felt among us.

We have with us a number of the Master's dedicated servants whose company and words of counsel and admonition have been very encouraging and acceptable and desires have been raised in many hearts that these favors may be productive of fruitfulness,

and that those water may be watered again and that the sheaves of peace may be theirs in the harvest time.

Your lively Epistle has been read in our hearing also Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond and we could but feel they were seasoned with salt and brought a nearness of feeling and fellowship which we trust will grow stronger as the years pass by. We are reminded through the messages sent to us of that first Epistle, for we also have had them confirmed by word of mouth by those who have come among us.

A deep concern was felt on the reading of that document which so fully sets forth our views and principles, and desires were expressed that we may, individually be found daily living out those principles and testimonies. May we come to the fountain and partake of the waters of which, if a man drink he shall never thirst, and eat of that Bread which satisfieth the soul.

There is a feeling of sympathy for you in your trials, and we hope Divine aid will be granted enabling you to reclaim that which stands in the way of the progress of truth among you and that those who are lukewarm and indifferent may be touched by the dayspring from on high and made to feel their responsibility both to God and man.

The desire has been expressed that the young people everywhere should come to know of that depth of experience which will prepare them for the upbuilding of the church militant, as the fathers and mothers are removed from our midst. that there may be standard bearers ready to fill their places, for in them is our future hope.

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:

When your Epistle of the 11th month last, together with others from all the Yearly Meetings within the circle of our covered pavilion was being read in our little Meeting a precious canopy of God's love was spread over us, and we were made to feel that

God did enable the writes of these letters to speak the same language, bringing encouragement to us in our weakness, and we feel to address you in the same Gospel love contained in these letters to us.

"There are with us at this time an unusual number of Friends from other Yearly Meetings with credentials telling us the same thing by mouth and we rejoice for the consolation"

There were also quite a number of other visiting Friends with us without minutes, some from the younger walks of life coming from a long distance bearing evidence that they desire to promote the cause of Truth.

The different sittings of the Yearly Meeting were felt to be seasons of Divine favor and we were blessed together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Nevertheless we have nothing to boast of except our weaknesses and various short comings. O that we might dig deeper and finally begin to build up again the walls upon the bed Rock of Divine revelation each one beginning around his own door. And what we desire for ourselves we earnestly crave for you.

We are truly glad to hear that "there are in your State here and there, some openings for Friends making the fields white unto harvest". Now if the labourers are few this commandment must be heeded. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth labourers into His harvest."

He is just as able to qualify labourers for the work to day as when in 1753 He raised up two young women to travel so extensively in the cause of Truth upon this Continent. When they were in the far south after leaving Virginia they wrote a very instructive letter to the Friends wherein they had visited in which are these words. "First we recommend to your solid consideration, when solemnly assembled, the exceeding low state of the ministry and discipline in most if not all, the Monthly Meetings in your colony. Sink down to the pure gift of God in yourselves;

ask of Him, with a sincere desire to be informed; Lord, what is the cause that we flee before our enemies, and are taken captive by them? for thus we believe it is with some, whether they are sensible of it or not; and as this is the case, we hope and believe, the Lord will let some of you see, and feel that the shortness has not been on His side, and that He has not forsaken His people but they Him; and who will also give power to amend your ways and your doings,"

Of God, in years gone by could so qualify Catherine Payton and Mary Pisly thus to write, let us not lose our faith in Him who is able now as ever, to be mouth, wisdom, tongue and utterance"
to all His obedient, trusting children.

O may we and you endeavor to follow more closely the instructions of the Prince of Peace in our own hearts, remembering the declaration "Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world". Let us then be so engaged in following Him through good report and evil report that we may be able of a truth to say in the words of the apostle Paul; Rejoice in tribulation, knowing that tribulation worketh patience, patience experience, and experience hope and that hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us"

Finally dear brothers and sisters farewell in the Lord and may the ever lovering Shepherd of Israel bind you and us more and more closely together by the drawing cords of His love.

With love we are yours friends,

To Canada Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends-

It is with a feeling of great unworthiness that we attempt to respond to your Epistle which has been such a comfort to us, making us realize anew that we are indeed

of the same household of faith, and may we be led to pray: what is our individual attitude? Do we do anything that tends to dim Christ's light within ourselves or others? if so may we be enabled in the secret closet, to learn His will and may His Divine influence flood our hearts with his purity and love; for we know He willeth not the death of any, but that all may return, repent and live.

Our desire for you is that you may be kept as in the hollow of His hand and that the prayer of the Psalmist be ours and yours, "create in me a clean heart Oh! God and renew a right spirit within me". That we may be enabled to do our work while the day lasts—lest our bishopric He give to another because of our influences.

We have been edified and comforted by the company of friends who have been drawn to us from many distant localities, and we have felt it is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes. We have been led to exclaim: "What is man that thou art mindful of him and the son of man that thou visitest him"

As He has in condescending mercy sent this as it were the dews of Lebanon on a needy soil may it sink deep in our every heart, and thereby may His vineyard flourish and bring forth fruit to His honor and praise.

With a salutation of love we remain

your friends.

At our Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England, held at Westerly, Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings for worship on First Day, the 8th of Sixth Month, 1913, and on Second Day, the 9th with a Meeting for Discipline;

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this meeting viz:-

From Rhode Island Quarter, Mary J. Foster, Charles Perry, Eunice B. Clark, Amos O. Foster, and Anna A. Gardner,

From Sandwich Quarter, Alice W. Gulley, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Horace B. Foster, William J. Oliver, Mary C. Foster, Mary Anna Oliver and Jesse R. Tucker, whose names being called, they are all present.

Our beloved Friend John G. Hall attended this Meeting with a minute from Somerset Monthly Meeting of Friends of Ohio, held 5th Mo. 22nd. 1913, endorsed by Stillwater Quarterly Meeting of Friends Ohio held the 28th of 5th Mo. 1913, liberating him to attend New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Westerly, Rhode Island; and such other service as truth may call for while amongst them, he being a minister with whom they have unity. His company and gospel labors have been strengthening and comforting to us, and the clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute and sign the same on behalf of the Meeting.

Our beloved Friend Mary Anne V. Wood attended this Meeting with a minute from Hector Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Ulysses, Third Month 19th 1913, endorsed by Scipio Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Ulysses, Fourth Month, 9th. 1913, liberating her to attend the Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Westerly, Rhode Island; also Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Pickering, she being a minister with whom they have unity.

Her company and gospel labors have been satisfactory to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish her with a copy of this minute and sign it on behalf of this Meeting.

Epistles have been received and read at this time from Ohio, Western, Iowa, Kansas, Canada, and North Carolina Yearly Meetings of Friends, and we appoint our Friends, Mary B. Foster, Arthur Perry, James M. Oliver, Horace B. Foster, Job S. Gidley, Mary C. Foster, James H. Tucker, Eunice B. Clark, William T. Oliver, and Elizabeth G. Wilbur to prepare, if way opens for it, essays of replies to these letters, and produce them at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We appoint our Friends Jesse R. Tucker, Mary Anna Oliver, Amos O. Foster, Charles Perry, and Mary J. Foster, to prepare a Summary of the answers to the Queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting, and propose the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk, and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk, and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

We appoint our Friends Amos O. Foster, Horace B. Foster, and James M. Oliver, to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We appoint our Friends Charles Perry, James M. Oliver, Horace B. Foster, and Amos O. Foster a committee to examine a communication from a Yearly Meeting with which we do not correspond and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Second Day afternoon, at about the hour to which the Meeting was adjourned, Men and Women Friends, again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called, they are all present but one.

Jesse R. Tucker on behalf of the representatives, reported that they had met and that they were united in proposing the name of Job S. Gidley for Clerk,

and Mary P. Foster for Assistant Clerk. Their names being separately considered, the proposition was united with and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year, or till others are appointed in their places.

The Queries were read at this time, with answers thereto, from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends, and a Summary thereof that was prepared by a committee named at the first sitting of this Meeting, was also read and the Clerk is directed to record the same.

During the time of the reading of the Queries with the answers thereto, a precious canopy of God's love overspread the Meeting and much good counsel was handed forth by our visiting Friends, encouraging us to greater faithfulness in the attendance of all our Meetings and to look unto God for strength that will enable us to do all that He requires at our hands.

May their words sink deep into our hearts, and be like seed falling upon good ground that shall bring forth fruit, "some thirty, some sixty, and some an hundred fold."

The committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting, to examine a communication from London Yearly Meeting, reports that they have attended to that service and suggest that it be read in our Meeting.

It was read at this time, and the Clerk is directed to acknowledge the receipt of it and of its being read in our Meeting.

Adjourned to the third hour, Third Day afternoon.

Third Day afternoon the 10th., at about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned, Men and Women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called, they are all present.

The committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting to examine the Treasurer's account and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, make the following report,

The committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's account, have attended to their appointment. They find the account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed and a balance in the Treasury of $1,248.70. They are united in proposing the name of Harvey C. Perry for Treasurer for the ensuing year."

(Signed) James H. Oliver for the Committee.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is re-appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year or until another appointment.

The Essays of replies to the Epistles, prepared by the committee named at the first sitting of this Meeting, were read and approved, and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Ohio, Western, Iowa, Kansas, Canada and North Carolina Yearly Meetings.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved, and it was concluded to re-appoint Jonathan Chace, Anne C. Foster, Anna H. Chace, James H. Tucker, Sarah F. Wilbur, Jesse R. Tucker, Mary P. Foster, Charles Perry, Lydia F. Nichols, Robert S. Gidley, Susanna H. Gidley, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Eunice B. Nichols, Isabel C. Gifford, Arthur Perry, Lucy H. Foster, Horace B. Foster, James H. Oliver, Mary C. Foster, Mary Anna Oliver, and Anna A. Gardner to constitute the Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

Books and Tracts.

Reports come from some members of the committee that quite a number of tracts and juvenile books, Barklays Apology and a number of Joseph Hoag's

Journal have been distributed during the year.

It was concluded to re-appoint James H. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Charles Perry, Anna H. Chace, Sarah F. Wilbur, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Anna A. Gardner, Emma A. H. Perry, Gertrude E. Foster, Sarah E. Mitchell, Susanna H. Guindon, James W. Oliver, Francis T. Guindon, and Mary E. Foster, a committee to procure such books and tracts as in their judgment are most desirable for distribution, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting together with the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting.

The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Charles Perry of Westerly, Rhode Island, and Job S. Gidley of North Dartmouth, Mass. are appointed Correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign the same on its behalf. During the various sittings of our Yearly Meeting, we have felt the overshadowing presence of the Almighty, and we have been enabled to transact the business claiming our attention in near feelings of unity, and as we are soon to separate to return to our several homes, may we look unto God for strength to gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost, and for the manifold blessings which He has given us, may all of us be encouraged to greater faithfulness.

We now conclude purposing to meet at this place at the usual time next Year if consistent with the Divine Will.

Job S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary of Answers to the Queries.

Ans. 1st. All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held, except a few meetings not held on account of storms or absence of Friends from home. Mid-week meetings and those for discipline, are neglected by a few. The hour is nearly observed. Not clear of sleep, clear of other unbecoming behavior.

Ans. 2nd. Love and unity are maintained, in a good degree, and detraction guarded against. No differences have been brought to our notice.

Ans. 3rd. Some Friends are concerned to bring up those under their care, in plainness of speech behavior and apparel, to restrain them from pernicious books and from the corrupt conversation of the world, and endeavor to be good examples therein themselves, yet a greater concern in these respects would be desirable. We believe that the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in families.

Ans. 4th. Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine, and the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort, and are careful to keep in true moderation and temperance on most occasions.

Ans. 5th. The circumstances of the poor are inspected and their necessities relieved. Our children freely partake of learning to fit them for business. No children are placed from among Friends.

Ans 6th. We believe, that parents and heads of families are desirous that all proceedings with respect to marriage, be conformable to our discipline.

Ans. 7th. Some of our members attend meetings where there is a paid ministry. Clear in the other parts of the query.

Ans 8th. We believe Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and to settle their accounts, are mostly punctual to their promises, just in the payment of their debts; and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9th. Friends are careful as to records. There have been no removals since our last account.

Ans. 10th. We believe Friends fail exercised to deal with offenders as queried after, and to place judgment where it appears necessary; but owing to our small numbers, we feel that it is sometimes neglected.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings
To Ohio Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

The reading of the two epistles from your Yearly Meeting has brought to us a realizing and comforting sense of our common and united Christian faith and purpose of labor in the Master's vineyard. The concern and exercise of spirit of the individual members of one religious body for those of an other, is a cementing bond of fellowship, more closely uniting our seven Yearly Meetings and strengthening each in its own field of labor.

We gratefully acknowledge the presence of members from your Yearly Meeting, - living epistles, the depth and close concern for and ministry to us have found an attesting witness in our own hearts.

We believe that they, with us, have from time to time been sensible of a covering of the divine canopy in the sittings of our Meeting, so that in supplication and exhortation there has been heard, as it were, the voice of "One having authority."

During the sessions of our Meeting, there has been borne in upon some of us a renewed and deeper sense of the nature of true worship, - that the outspoken word is not essential to it, but that it is an attitude of the heart toward God, a waiting with real living expectation for His immediate and indwelling revelation of His purpose and will for us, - and a yielding and an obedience thereto.

Where several hearts are together exercised in one assembly in this way, there is a growing and an enlarging sense of living inward ministry, even no oral word be spoken. Indeed, at such a time, have we not all on occasions experienced the spirit of worship to be interrupted rather than helped by the outward utterance? If our Friends' Meetings are to be preserved in good order, dignity, solemnity and power, there must be obedience to a restraining

as well as a constraining overshadowing Presence. The helpful service of the members of your Yearly Meeting has made us sensible that they are not unmindful of this, but we dwell upon the subject because, if our method of pure worship is not acknowledged and adhered to, one of the most important testimonies of Quakerism will fall, and none will be so quick to realize it as our younger members. And one need not be unduly distressed and discouraged by that which may seem to be a hindrance, if not an interruption to worship. The lake must be deep and still perfectly to reflect the mountain peaks, but it may be fed by the turbulent mountain streams or by the deep pure springs of water. In any event, it must be stirred by currents and its surface at times made rough, if its waters are to give life to best things. Deep answereth unto deep although it be not with the same voice and the same expression, if it be that it springs from one and the same source even the Holy Spirit.

We have also been conscious in a renewed sense of the danger of a self-centered religious body, which seeks the eternal welfare of its own members only. We must have an enlarged vision of the need of those without as well as those within our Society. The missionary spirit is a true index of the life of the Church. He who gives himself for others is in the very act, himself spiritually helped. "Whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."

We send you these few lines confessing our own weakness and shortcoming, but showing you something of our exercise of Spirit and of our longing for better things, and trusting that we with you may look alone to Him for strength and guidance, from whom comes every good and perfect gift.

And now, May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all" Amen;

To Western Yearly Meeting.
Dear Friends:--

As we have gathered in our annual assembly we feel drawn near to you by the reading of your acceptable epistle, and desire again to salute you as brethren and sisters beloved for the Truth's sake. We have remembered that "they that feared the Lord spake often one to another" and it is indeed a comfort and encouragement when we receive loving messages from those who have the same faith and hope in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and are endeavoring to walk in His holy fear.

How comforting is our Savior's language- "I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, for without me, ye can do nothing." We feel ourselves how necessary it is for us to keep close to our Heavenly Guide, that we may individually sit, as it were, at Jesus' feet and receive instruction and help that we may be preserved from everything that the Lord's controversy is against and be made instruments in His hands to proclaim to others the glad tidings of the indwelling and inspeaking Savior of men. That we may have a living message not only for ourselves but also for others whom we meet in the world. But we must first know our Master's will and be obedient to it, even though it be on the cross, and then shall we be fruit-bearing branches in the Lord's vineyard.

We have been favored, at this time, with the company of several of the Lord's servants and also by some in the younger walks of life from other Yearly Meetings, whose presence has been a help and encouragement to us who are so few in number. The presence of the dear Master of Assemblies has been felt in our midst, overshadowing us at times, and the spiritual bread and wine have been given us so that we could say- "It has been good for us to be here" Your salutary epistle of 10th Mo. last was read in our meeting to our edification. And now with fervent breathings to our Heavenly Father that we may all be kept in the hollow of His hand, we remain Your friends.

1913

To Iowa Yearly Meeting.
Dear Friends:-

From sundry epistles recorded in the Scriptures of Truth we know that this method of communication was at time extensively used to impart to different churches or individuals such instruction as Divinely inspired apostles felt was required. The object and character of these ministrations were varied, tending to strengthen and encourage such as were struggling to discountenance certain heresies then prevailing - to exhort them to continue steadfast in their adherence to the gospel - firm in their belief that salvation was the free gift of God by and through Jesus Christ, and that every man, Jew as well as Gentile, was as equally in need of, as he was equally welcome to, this salvation.

These Divinely moved Epistles fulfilled the purpose for which they were expressly written and have since served to confirm revelations made known in the secret of hearts seeking for spiritual light and freedom. With bowed hearts we would confess the the gratitude which we feel because these valuable Epistles were left upon record for this and other generations. We also rejoice that the custom so freely exercised at that period has continued in practice up to the present time. For we have been comforted by the reading of tender epistolary greetings from several yearly meetings since the opening of our Annual Assembly.

The reception of these messages of real sympathy and love from distant meetings has justly claimed the attention of those to whom they were addressed, and they are united in an exercise of feeling which this reply is seeking to express - but our limitations are such that we can do little more than acknowledge the message, and testify our joy over your manifestation of affection, and if possible to stir up in you a like gladness of heart, thereby making our own joy the more complete;

We can but continue to look about us at the vacant places once filled by dear and valued members. We still realize that their removal continues to be a loss to so small a company, but we know that even the Prophets do not "live forever", and it is declared in Holy Writ that they could save neither sons nor daughters had they remained with us.

We are convincingly admonished to put our entire trust and confidence in Him who, alone is able to save to the uttermost, and who has left the comforting promise, "Lo I am with you alway". We gladly acknowledge the company and gospel labors of a few dear Friends from other parts of the heritage who have been favored to break bread amongst us from the Father's table, the very crumbs of which have comforted our drooping spirits, and our desire is that it be not like the manna which lasted but for a day, but that it sink deep in our every heart. We have desired that we might have strength to offer the first fruits of our increase unto the Lord and thereby obtain that blessing which the very least amongst us have felt to petition, might rest upon this feeble remnant.

Finally, Dear Friends, we would desire you to be strong in the Lord, and may He be round about you, as the mountains are round about Jerusalem, giving you the calm of the Spirit; that the winds of adversity may not move you but cause you to look to the true source for wisdom and strength.

In the same bond of Christian love we are your friends,

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting,

Dear Friends:-

In the love of the everlasting Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ do we feel to address you, desiring that the cord which binds together the seven Yearly Meetings within our circle, may grow stronger and stronger

as time rolls on, so that all the members thereof may be able to say in the words of the Psalmist, "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

We feel that the "Brief Synopsis of the Principles and Testimonies of the Religious Society of Friends" that was approved by the seven Yearly Meetings last year may, under the power of God be one of the means whereby we may be able to let our light so shine before men that they may see our good works and glorify our Father in Heaven.

We believe also that there is, at the present time, a great hungering and thirsting after the Truth as it was known to the early Friends. "Christ Jesus the same yesterday today and forever." And when we are made willing to follow Him as the early Friends did through good report and evil report, doubtless many would be led to say "Did not our heart burn within us as He talked with us by the way and while He opened to us the Scriptures." "The harvest truly is plenteous but the laborers are few." How it behoves us then to heed the injunction "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest."

We would encourage all who desire to be consistent Friends to read carefully the "Synopsis" referred to in this letter and see if it does not set forth pretty clearly what we believe in, and if it does let us all, oftener than the returning morning look unto the Great Head of the Church for that strength we stand in need of, for without His help we can never consistently live up to what we profess to believe in.

O let none seek for an easier way into the kingdom than by the cross of Christ; and let none of us be ashamed that it may be known by our appearance that we are Friends. The apostle Paul could say "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."

When your interesting epistle was read in our Meeting together with those from the other Yearly Meetings so closely united to us; the messages of love and good

will therein contained reached the witness in our hearts, and when we heard the same things spoken by the visiting Friends who are with us, we could say in the words of those who, when the first epistle or letter alluded to in the New Testament was read to them, "We rejoiced for the consolation."

With a salutation of love we remain your friends

1914

At New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly, Rhode Island, commencing with Public Meetings on First Day, the 7th of Sixth Month, 1914, and on Second Day, the 8th with a Meeting for Discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends it appears that the following named Friends were appointed to represent them in this meeting, viz:

From Rhode Island Quarter, Amos O. Foster, Mary P. Foster, Chas. J. Perry, Eunice K. Clark and Anna A. Gardner.

From Sandwich Quarter, Mary C. Foster, James H. Tucker, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Horace B. Foster, Isabel L. Gifford, and Jesse K. Tucker, whose names being called, they are all present.

Information comes to this Meeting that Sandwich Quarterly Meeting approves the action taken by Nantucket Monthly Meeting in the appointment of Mary Anna Oliver to the station of Elder.

Our beloved Friend Jesse Edgerton attended this Meeting with a minute from Upper Springfield Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Damascus, Ohio, Fourth Month 24th 1914, endorsed by Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Salem, Ohio, 9th of Fifth Month, 1914, liberating him to visit in the love of the Gospel New England and Canada Yearly Meetings, the Meetings composing them, and perhaps as way opens, most of the Meetings belonging; the Meetings of Conservative Friends in Central New York, also the Meeting

at Bristol Pa, in sympathy with them; the Indian School at Tunessa, N.Y. and to appoint a few meetings in the course of the visit, he being a minister with whom they have unity.

His company and gospel labors have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute and sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

Our beloved Friend S. Howard Edgerton attended this Meeting with a minute from Middleton Monthly Meeting of Friends, held Fifth Month 16th 1914, liberating him to accompany his father, Jesse Edgerton, on his proposed religious visit to New England and Canada Yearly Meetings and to attend some other meetings, he being an elder with whom they have unity.

His company and solid deportment have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute and sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

Our beloved Friend Esther Fowler attended this Meeting with a minute from New Garden Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Winona, Ohio, Fourth Month 23rd 1914, endorsed by Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Salem Ohio, the 9th of Fifth Month 1914, liberating her to visit in the love of the Gospel, New England Yearly Meeting of Friends and such of the Meetings composing it as she might feel drawn to. And it was opened for it to appoint a few meetings in the prosecution of the visit, she being a minister with whom they have unity.

Her company and gospel labors have been acceptable to us, and the Clerk is directed to furnish her with a copy of this minute and sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

Our beloved Friend Henry T. Outland attended this Meeting with a minute from Rich Square Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Rich Square N. C. Fourth Month 18th 1914, endorsed by Eastern Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Snow Hill, Chowan Co. N. C. Fifth

30th 1914, liberating him to visit in Gospel love, New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly Rhode Island, and to attend and to appoint some meetings elsewhere should way open therefor, he being a minister with whom they have unity.

His company and gospel labors have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute and sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

Our beloved Friend Benjamin Vail attended this Meeting with a minute from Chester Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Media, Pa. the 25th of Fifth Month, 1914 liberating him to attend the sittings of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Westerly, Rhode Island, and the Meetings composing it, as way may open; he being a minister with whom they have unity.

His company and gospel labors have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute and sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

Epistles have been received and read at this time from Ohio, Western Iowa, Canada, North Carolina and Kansas Yearly Meetings of Friends, and we appoint our Friends Job S. Gidley, Arthur Perry, Mary P. Foster, Mary C. Foster, James H. Oliver, Eunice B. Clark, Mary C. Foster, Mary Elizabeth Foster, Horace B. Foster and Charles Perry to prepare essays of replies, if way opens for it, and produce them at a future sitting of this Meeting. A letter from S.E. China Yearly Meeting of Friends in China was read at this time, and it was referred to the above named committee to prepare a suitable reply, if way opens for it.

We appoint our Friends James H. Oliver, Anna C. Foster, Mary C. Foster, and Jesse R. Tucker to prepare a Summary of the answers to the Queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

We appoint our Friends William J. Oliver, Anna C. Foster and Jesse R. Tucker a committee to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the rise of this sitting and propose the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk, and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk, and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Second Day afternoon, at about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned, Men and Women Friends again assembled. The names of the representatives being called, they are all present but one, for whose absence a satisfactory reason was given.

Charles Perry on behalf of the representatives, reported that they had met and that they were united in proposing the name of Robert S. Gidley for Clerk and Mary P. Foster for Assistant Clerk.

Their names being separately considered, the proposition was united with, and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year, or till others are appointed in their places.

The Queries were read at this time, with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Vandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends, and a Summary of these answers prepared by a committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting, was also read, and the Clerk is directed to record the same.

During the reading of the answers to the Queries showing our many deficiencies and short comings we were encouraged by our visiting Friends to be faithful in the attendance of all our Meetings, especially those in the middle of the week, and all were encouraged to rightly read the Scriptures of Truth; we might be led to exclaim, Did not our heart burn within us as He talked with us by the way and as He opened to us the Scriptures. We were also reminded of the words of the Apostle, "I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service; And be not conformed to this world,

but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God".

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved, and it was concluded to reappoint Jonathan Chace, Anna C. Foster, Anna H. Chace, James H. Tucker, Jesse R. Tucker, Mary P. Foster, Charles Perry, Lydia H. Nichols, Bob S. Gidley, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Emma B. Nichols, Isabel L. Gifford, Arthur Perry, Lucy M. Foster, Horace B. Foster, James M. Oliver, Mary C. Foster, Mary Anna Oliver and Anna A. Gardner to constitute the Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

Adjourned to the third hour Third Day afternoon.

Third Day afternoon at about the hour to which the Meeting was adjourned, Men and Women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called they are all present.

The Memorials on the subject of peace and the liquor traffic prepared by a committee of the Meeting for Sufferings were read and approved and the Clerk was directed to sign them on behalf of the Meeting. They were referred to the Meeting for Sufferings to be forwarded, one to the President of the United States, and the other to the Members of the Congress of the United States.

To Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States;

The New England Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, assembled at Westerly, Rhode Island, reaffirm its ancient testimony to the unrighteousness of all war, and is united in a deep concern that all international differences shall be settled by arbitration. We urge in particular that no efforts be spared to prevent the shipment of arms and ammunition to either faction in Mexico. We earnestly desire a successful outcome to the mediation conference at Niagara Falls to the end that all difference in Mexico may be settled without further bloodshed.

To the Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States,

The New England Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, assembled at Westerly, Rhode Island, recognizing the liquor traffic as a fearful evil and national menace, too powerful for state authority, earnestly urge you to take favorable and prompt action on the joint resolution providing for the submission to the legislatures of the several states of a constitutional amendment prohibiting the manufacture, sale, transportation, importation and exportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes.

The essays of replies to the epistles received, together with a letter to a Yearly Meeting of Friends in China in answer to one received from them, which were prepared by the committee named at the first sitting of this Meeting were read and approved, and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Ohio Western, Iowa, Kansas, Canada, North Carolina Yearly Meetings and to the Yearly Meeting in China.

The Committee on books and tracts make the following report:

Several volumes of Joseph Hoag's Journal have been sent me by one of the members of the committee and have been placed upon the shelves in the Meeting House at Westerly. She also had some other books ordered and sent to the address of an Armenian young man to whom she sent a Troy, New York, and who at the present time is living in her family. She also ordered books sent her which have been placed in libraries near them and for distribution among her neighbors and friends.

Gertrude E. Foster for the Committee.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and it was concluded to re-appoint James H. Tucker, Job L. Tuttle, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Charles Perry, Anna H. Chace, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Anna A. Gardner, Emma A. F. Perry, Gertrude E. Foster, Sarah E. Mitchell, Susanna H. Swinburn,

James H. Oliver, Francis T. Gundon, and Mary E. Foster and to appoint Elizabeth E. Gidley and Elizabeth Perry a committee to procure such books and tracts as they think desirable for distribution and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

The committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting to examine the Treasurer's accounts and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year make the following report.

The committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's accounts have attended to their appointment and find the account has been correctly kept and proper vouchers filed, also that there is a balance on hand of $81,158.72. The committee is united in the re-appointment of Harvey C. Perry for Treasurer for the ensuing year or until another appointment.

Signed Wm. T. Oliver for the Committee.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is re-appointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year or until another appointment.

It was concluded to print the minutes of the Yearly Meeting together with the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting. The care of printing the minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Charles Perry of Westerly R. I. and Job S. Gidley of No. Dartmouth, Mass. are re-appointed correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign the same on its behalf.

A request coming from Sandwich Quarterly Meeting asking for the privilege of changing the time of holding one of their Quarterly Meetings from the first Fifth Day in the Twelfth Month to the first Fifth Day in the following First Month was granted and the said Quarterly Meeting is left at liberty to make the change.

No further business appearing we conclude, purposing to meet at this place, at this usual time next year if consistent with the Divine Will.

Job S. Gidley Clerk.

1914

Summary Answers to the Queries.

Ans. 1st ||. All our Meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held excepting a few where some members have been attending meetings elsewhere. Some mid-week meetings not well attended. The hour nearly observed by most Friends. Some appearance of sleep. Clear of other unbecoming behaviour.

Ans. 2nd ||. Love and unity are maintained in a good degree. Detraction is guarded against. No differences have been brought to our notice.

Ans. 3rd ||. Some Friends are careful to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech, behaviour, and apparel, and from pernicious reading, and the corrupt conversation of the world, and endeavour to be good examples in these respects themselves. Yet more care, we think is needful. We believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends families.

Ans. 4th ||. We believe Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine. The unnecessary frequenting of taverns and avoid places of public resort, and observe moderation and temperance on most occasions.

Ans. 5th ||. There are none needing assistance. Our children duly partake of learning to fit them for business, and none are placed from among Friends.

Ans. 6th ||. Parents and heads of families are careful that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline.

Ans. 7th ||. Some of our members attend meetings where there is a paid ministry. Clear in the other parts of the query.

Ans. 8th ||. So far as appears Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts, are mostly punctual to their promises and just in the payment of their debts and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9th ||. Friends are careful to have all their marriages, births, deaths and burials duly recorded. No Friends have removed from or commenced business without certificates.

Ans. 10th ||. Friends are desirous to deal with all offenders in the spirit of meekness and wisdom, without partiality or much unnecessary delay, but owing to our small numbers we feel that it is sometimes neglected.
There has been no passing of judgment since our last account.

Letter to other Yearly Meetings.

To Ohio Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends.

In the love of God shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us, we feel to salute you as brothers and sisters of the same household of faith, desiring that you with us and we with you may draw nearer to God that the following declaration of the Psalmist may be verified in our own experience; "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

From its early history the concerned members of our Society have always considered it important for the youth to have a religiously guarded education; and we have been made glad to learn of the efforts which you have made in this direction. George Fox felt the need of this and and recommended the establishment of boarding-schools, and we are glad to learn of the prosperous condition of yours. And our earnest prayer to God for that School is that it may be overshadowed by a canopy of His love, and that its faculty may be able not only to impart instruction in the various branches of learning, in a way that will best fit its students for the active duties of life; but that they may also obtain so clear an understanding of the Scriptures of Truth from the Great Interpreter of them that they may be led to exclaim: "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us by the way and while He opened to us the Scriptures?"

And may the instructors be so helped by the Giver of every good and perfect gift that they may impart the information received in such a way that the scholars may take knowledge of them that they have been with Jesus.

And Dear Friends, we feel to call your attention to this declaration of the Prophet Isaiah, "If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity and thy darkness as the noonday. And the Lord shall guide thee continually and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones; and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places; thou shalt raise up the foundation of many generations; and thou shalt be called the repairer of the breach, The restorer of the paths to dwell in".

And may a double portion of God's love be yours, and may strength and ability be given you to labor in unity in so building up the walls of our Zion. That your Yearly Meeting may become, as it were, a nucleus around which real Friends could gather.

The epistles received from our Brothers and Sisters bear evidence of being written under Divine anointing. During the reading of them quietness prevailed and the message of love thus conveyed reached the witness in our hearts.

And with thankfulness we feel to acknowledge the goodness of God in sending so many dedicated servants and handmaidens, at this time, to this part of His heritage. (Since from your Yearly Meeting) which has been a brook by the way.

May their words of sympathy, counsel and encouragement be not sown falling upon barren soil, which brings forth nothing of value, but may they sink deep into our hearts and be likened falling upon good ground, that shall bring forth much fruit to the glory of God. The periods of silent waiting during the various sittings of the Yearly Meeting, were felt to be remarkable seasons of Divine favor, and we could say "It is good for us to be here" With a salutation of love we bid you "Farewell in the Lord."

To Western Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends,

The reading of the Epistles from you and from other Yearly Meetings has brought us under a sense of the Divine favor bestowed upon us through the exercise of Spirit of those of the same household of faith. In considering the words of encouragement and of exhortation we have been reminded of the words of the Master, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them," and our weakness and many failings have been freshly brought to mind. Nevertheless, we feel that through these letters there has been extended to us as if specifically uttered, a benediction even like unto that with which the Apostle Paul began all of his Epistles, whether addressed unto "all that be at Rome, beloved of God," or unto the churches of Asia Minor, or unto his son in the Gospel Timothy and Titus - "Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ." And with these words we salute you.

We have been greatly favored by having Ministers and Friends from other Yearly Meetings, who have been deeply exercised in the love of the Gospel. The prayer of David has been brought before us, Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

The desire has been expressed that we might have a more perfect vision of our place as individuals in worship and in service under the Divine plan; and that we might be endued with strength and wisdom from on High to fill it.

We have been favored also with periods of silent waiting, during which we believe there has been an opening of the doors of individual hearts to Him who cleanseth and knocketh, under a willingness to be prostrate in His presence that He might lift them up. In and through this experience we believe there has come to some a fresh sense of the washing of regeneration, and of spiritual growth even by the renewing of the mind under the direct ministry of the Holy Spirit. Finally, we feel to give thanks for all our blessings, and humbly as we are, strengthened by might in the inner man, to say with the Apostle "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all" Amen.

1911

To Iowa Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:

It is under a sense of renewed evidence of our Heavenly Father's love that we again feel to address you, who although widely separated by distance, yet you are very near to us in being brethren and sisters of one common hope and faith.

"For there is but One Lord, one faith and one baptism." Our Savior has said "I am the way, the Truth and the Life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me." Again it is written, "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God;" then say not in thine heart "Who shall ascend into heaven, that is to bring down Christ from above, or who shall descend into the deep that is to bring up Christ again from the dead, but what saith it? The word is nigh thee even in thy mouth and in thy heart, that is the word of faith which we preach."

And as this is so, how attentive should we all be to this inspeaking word of grace and truth. And now also the axe is laid at the root of the tree, therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire. So that we may all teach so close to our Heavenly Father that we may be as living stones in the Lord's house, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.

We have been favored at this time with a number of Gospel Messengers from different parts of the Lord's heritage, whose words of admonition and encouragement have made us to realize that we have been baptized into one Spirit by a truly anointed ministry.

We rejoice with you that the preparing hand of our Heavenly Father is evidently qualifying the young men among us, as well as you for service in the church. May we all be watchful unto prayer that we may be kept upon the one sure foundation even Christ Jesus the Rock of Ages.

Our small numbers have been still further lessened by the removal, during the past year, of several dear friends from works to rewards. May we all double our diligence to make our calling and election sure.

Your acceptable epistle of Tenth month last was read in this: Bring to our comfort and encouragement.

With a salutation of love, we remain, your friends.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:

Your salutation of love has been read in our midst and we have been comforted by it, feeling we receive life and strength from the same fountain, and by thus communing together we may strengthen the bonds of our love and fellowship. How often are we reminded of the declaration of our Lord "Where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them." They are words of deep meaning containing a definite and certain truth, and can we not say this life giving presence has been among us as a people in times past leaving no cause to doubt his continued mercies if we are obedient.

We have been comforted and encouraged by a goodly number to have been constrained to come among us from distant fields. Our hearts have indeed been made to burn within us as they have opened up to us the Scriptures, and by heeding these truths, may we be willing to be baptized and rebaptized, until we can build a Bethel wherein we can offer acceptable praise.

We trust we have been humbled as much as encouraged by the comparison to the Gideonites for us. Not their faith that required their diminished numbers to be by the Lord was able to show his power. And may the desire so fervently expressed that we be comforted by the comfort wherewith they are comforted become a living

really amongst you and us.

We have been encouraged to faithfulness and it seems to us there never was more need of Friends holding to their testimonies and beliefs than at present, when many outside our Society are coming to our way of thinking, or many outside, notably the Inward Light, Peace and Temperance. Friends have done a great work in the past, and Oh! let us keep to our principles and peculiar beliefs, which are every day becoming less peculiar as other Christians find them true. If we are indeed faithful in our testimonies and practices as Christians shall we not know that now is the time when "they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother saying know the Lord for all shall know me from the least of them to the greatest of them, saith the Lord."

To Canada Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

Being once more collected in Yearly Meeting capacity, we feel drawn near in spirit by the reading of your acceptable epistle of last year, and we with you have felt our weakness and poverty, and without the help of the "God of Jacob" of ourselves we can do nothing; but how precious the thought that He knows our every need and will, as we turn unto Him, supply in the needful time; and we feel that His love as a precious canopy has been spread over us during the various sittings of the Meeting. We have the company of dear Friends from other meetings who have ministered to us in the ability that God alone can give, which has been refreshing and instructive to us, and we crave that the seed sown may not fall upon dry and barren ground, but that it may take root, spring up and bear fruit to the praise of the Great Husbandman. And oh how our hearts have gone out

to those who are standing in a bare and empty profession with desires that they would be willing to turn in ward and find the teacher there, "who will teach us never, man taught" and be partaken of the heavenly gift that will indeed satisfy the longing of every poor and empty soul more than all the treasures of Egypt. Our Saviour said "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest", Take my yoke upon you and learn of me for I am meek and lowly in heart and ye shall find rest unto your souls" for with out Him there is no salvation, yet how prone is poor finite man to be so absorbed in the pleasing allurements of time that too little attention is given to the one thing needful which is our hidden treasure that must be sought for if we would find it, and when found then could we in truth & claim "Great and marvellous are thy works Lord God Almighty" just and true are thy ways thou King of saints." who would not serve Thee?

With a salutation of love we are your friends.

In behalf of North Carolina Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

As we come together in a Yearly Meeting capacity again we are reminded that, "Except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it" So dear Friends, we feel that we are of but little account unless our daily lives correspond with our high and holy profession in the unchangeable Truth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." We do earnestly believe, that our Heavenly Father doth require a more full surrender of our minds and bodies, to serve Him in whatever way He chooses for dependent and obedient little ones to go in. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." with the assurance of "They that do hunger and thirst after righteousness shall be filled" Then dear friends, what inducement we have to lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so

easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith who for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God". True it is we are but sojourners and pilgrims here as all our fathers and mothers have been, subject to the same weakness, trials and discouragements, but oh, the loving kindness that is new every morning and extends from the rivers mouth to the very ends of the earth to each succeeding generation of men; and the same power that sustained them will strengthen, cheer and sustain us too, all along this wilderness journey. It was this power that made this Society in its beginning such a highly favored one. We are persuaded that that which led our forefathers out from the fashions and customs of the world in their day to become a peculiar people" will not lead us of today back into those things which were bought by them at such a tremendous cost, the cruel imprisonments, scoffings and even martyrdom; and while we have reaped the benefit of their labors let us be alive to the injunction "What I say unto you I say unto all watch" Yes dear friends, the individual watch must be maintained, or the things of time and sense will have the ascendency over our spirits, the simplicity and humility of the precious Truth will be dimmed and our testimonies will remain only by tradition, and dear friends, is this not, in a measure, the cause why we are not filling up our places in the Militant Church with a greater measure of usefulness? To return to the faithfulness of those days of the morning we must apply to the same source of strength

We have at this time some of the faithful servants from other parts of the Master's heritage, whom He has sent to minister to our various needs enabling them to hand forth from His royal treasure things new and old and others we accept with us from your borders, Our beloved youth have been tenderly reminded to [illegible] like one said "That better part that should not be taken away" And as our hopes are centered on these dear young people, we desire that ours with yours may be more and more willing to turn away from all that would and does stand in the way of their spiritual [illegible]

Lain in the bloom of youth they may often prove sacrifice the Master is calling for, oh! dear ones, we cannot hold on to the Lord with one hand and the world with the other; the Saviour emphatically declared, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

Your acceptable epistle was received and read in this Meeting bringing us closer into fellowship and we trust a deeper sense of our responsibilities, With love we are your friends.

1915.

At our New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly Rhode Island with Public Meetings for Worship on First Day, the 6th of Sixth Month, 1915, and on Second Day, the 7th, with a Meeting for discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends, the representatives therein named to attend this Meeting are Thomas Perry, Amos C. Foster, Eunice S. Clarke, Lucy N. Foster, Phebe P. Buffum, Sol. S. Gidley, Mary Anna Oliver, Elizabeth G. Filbur, Isabel L. Gifford, Jesse R. Tucker, William H. Oliver, Henry C. Foster and James H. Tucker, whose names being called, they are all present but one.

Our beloved Friend, Mary B. Henderson, attended this Meeting, with a minute from Paulina Monthly Meeting of Friends, held near Paulina, Iowa, the 10th of Fourth Month, 1915, with the approval of Bear Creek Monthly Meeting, which with Paulina Monthly Meeting, comprize her Quarterly Meeting, liberating her to visit, in the love of the Gospel, New England Yearly Meeting, Conservative Friends in Central New York, Minnesota Boarding School, and other service going or returning, as Truth may open the way, She being a minister with whom they have unity.

Her company and Gospel labors have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish her with a copy of this minute and sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

Our beloved Friends, Archibald Henderson and wife Anna R. Henderson, attended this Meeting with a minute from Paulina Monthly Meeting of Friends held near Paulina, Iowa, the 8th of Fifth Month, 1913 liberating them to accompany Mary B. Henderson on her religious visit, they being elders with whom they have mit Their company and solid deportment have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish them with a copy of this minute and sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

Our beloved Friend Thomas C. Hogue from West Chester Pa. is with us at this time whose company and labors of love have been acceptable to us.

Arthur Perry, Jane N. Oliver, Mary C. Foster, and Mary G. Foster are appointed a committee to consider a communication from the General Meeting of Friends held at Pritchley, England, and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

Epistles have been received and read, at this time, from Ohio, Western, Kansas and Iowa Yearly Meetings, and we appoint Job S. Gidley, Jane N. Oliver, Mary G. Foster, Eunice B. Clark Mary C. Foster, Lucy N. Foster, Elizabeth G. Hilbur, and Horace B. Foster to prepare, if may open on it, essays of replies to these epistles and others to Canada and North Carolina Yearly Meetings and produce them at a future sitting of this Meeting.

We appoint our Friends Amos C. Foster James N. Oliver Susanna H. Guinden and Mary Anna Oliver to prepare a Summary of the answers to the Queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

We appoint our Friends Anne C. Foster, Jesse R. Tucker, and Horace B. Foster to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read at this time and approved and it was concluded to reappoint Jonathan Chace, James H. Tucker, Anne C. Foster, Anna H. Chace, Jesse R. Tucker, Mary B. Foster, Charles Perry, Sylvia F. Tucker, Pot B. Gidley, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Emmie B. Nichols, Mabel L. Gifford, Arthur Perry, Lucy H. Foster, Horace B. Foster, Emma H. Chace, Mary C. Foster, Mary Anna Chace and Anna A. Gardner, and to appoint Thomas Perry and Emmie B. Clark, to constitute the Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and propose the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Second Day afternoon at about the hour to which the Meeting was adjourned, Men and Women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called they were all present but one.

Jesse R. Tucker on behalf of the representatives reported that they had met and that they were united in proposing the name of Pot B. Gidley for Clerk and Mary B. Foster for Assistant Clerk. Their names being separately considered the proposition was approved of and they are appointed for those services respectively for the ensuing year or until others are appointed in their place.

The committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting to consider the Epistle coming from the General Meeting of Friends held at Pirlicky, England, recommends that it be read.

The Epistle was read at this time to our satisfaction and encouragement and the Clerk was directed to make a suitable reply, sending a copy of this minute.

The Queries were read at this time, with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends, and a summary of these answers, which was prepared by a committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting, and which is thought to describe our present state, was also read and the Clerk is directed to record the same.

While considering the state of Society as shown by the readings of the answers to the Annual Queries a precious canopy of God's love was over the Meeting and Friends were brought under a concern for the removal of such deficiencies as were shown by this examination, and an earnest engagement was felt and expressed, that we double our diligence that these short comings may disappear. The frequent reading of the Holy Scriptures in our families followed by a time of reverent silent waiting was feelingly alluded to as helpful in all our religious duties. One visitor made it very clear how helpful the reading of the Scriptures is, even to one while young in years. Parents and Heads of families should be careful of the literature which enters their homes, and watchful over their children in all respects. The exercise and travail of soul shown by the dear Friends from a distance, in their sweet gospel messages to us, we trust may not be like seed falling in stony places or by the wayside, but like that which falls upon good ground and brings forth much fruit in honor of the Great Husbandman.

The Committee on Books and Tracts make the following report; One member of the Committee reports that he has had printed and has, for the most part, distributed two thousand copies of a sermon on "Non Reliance" by W. L. Hurry. This pamphlet [illegible] its stand solely upon the principles and practise of Friends with regard to war, and it has been widely distributed in this country and in England to libraries, to college presidents, to the President of the United States, and to some of the senators and Representatives in Congress. Many acknowledgements have been received, the Boston Public Library and Harvard University stating that copies have been placed upon their shelves,

Another says there has been an unusual opportunity for distributing books and tracts this year; a number of Bibles have been placed, and several volumes of the writings of Friends and a large number of tracts have been handed out where they seemed appreciated, the latter particularly in Troy N. Y. and in Canada. There seems to be a growing taste for the envelope size of booklets among the children in our various neighborhoods. So does seem worth while in this day of so much light reading to encourage the reading of good books and tracts.

The reports are satisfactory to the Meeting and it was concluded to reappoint Emma H. Tucker, Joel S. Gilley, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Anna H. Chace, Elizabeth G. Hilton, Anna A. Gardner, Emma A. F. Perry, Gertrude E. Foster, Sarah E. Hallock, Susanna H. Swinden, Emma N. Olney, Francis T. Swinden, Mary E. Foster, Elizabeth E. Gilley and Elizabeth Perry a committee to procure such books and tracts as they think desirable for distribution and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense they may incur.

Adjourned to the Third Hour Third Day of the week. Third Day afternoon, the 14th at about the time to which the Meeting has adjourned Men and Women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called, all are present.

The essays of replies to the Epistles received, together with one to Canada and another to North Carolina Yearly Meetings, prepared by the committee named at the first sitting of this Meeting, were read and approved, and the Clerk is directed to inscribe and forward them to Canada, Ohio, Western, Iowa, Kansas and North Carolina, Yearly Meetings, and sign the same on behalf of this Meeting.

The committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's account have attended to that service and find the account correctly kept and proper vouchers filed, and find a balance of one thousand, one hundred and eleven and 76/100 ($1,111.76) dollars.

We are united in proposing the name of Harvey C. Perry as Treasurer for the ensuing year or till another appointment. Signed Jesse R. Tucker for the Committee.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is reappointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year or until another appointment.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting together with the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting.

The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Charles Perry of Westerly Rhode Island and J. B. Tidby of Dartmouth, Mass. are reappointed correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign the same on its behalf.

The business claiming our attention has been accomplished in much love and harmony, and we have been bountifully fed from the Master's table and as we separate to return to our

several Items may be strengthened to gather up the fragments that remain that nothing be lost.

A further business appearing we conclude Jumpsius to meet at this place at the usual time next year if permitted with the Divine Will.

Jos. S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary Answers to the Queries.

Ans. 1st. All our meetings for religious worship and discipline have been held and attended as First Days by most of our members who are of ability and not prevented by divine or other unavoidable circumstance. Mid week meetings and those for discipline neglected by a few. The hour pretty well observed by most. To clear of steep, to the unbecoming behavior to remark.

Ans. 2nd. Love and unity are maintained in a good degree; detraction is guarded against. No differences known.

Ans. 3rd. Some Friends are concerned to bring up their children under their care in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel; to restrain them from reading pernicious books, and from the corrupt conversation of the world, and to be good examples herein themselves. Yet more care in these respects are needful. We believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends families.

Ans. 4th. We feel that Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquors except for medicine, and the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort, and observe moderation on most occasions;

Ans. 5th. Now reading assistance, Friends children seem freely partake of learning. No children placed from among Friends.

Ans. 6th. We believe that parents and heads of families are desirous that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to rules of discipline.

Ans. 7th. Some of our members attend meetings where there is a paid ministry. Clear in the other part of this query.

Ans. 8th. We believe Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts are mostly punctual to their promises and just in the payment of their debts and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9th. Friends are careful as to records; one removed with certificate since our last account.

Ans. 10th. We believe care rests with Friends to deal with offenders when necessary as the discipline requires, but owing to our small number we feel that it is sometimes neglected. No placing of judgment since our last report.

1915

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings

To Canada Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends

Although no epistle has reached our Yearly Meeting from you this year, still do we feel that you and we are of the same household of faith, and our desire is that as time rolls on, we may be brought more and more closely together by the drawing cords of our Heavenly Father's love.

And we earnestly crave that all of you may dwell in the secret place of the Most High that you may abide under the shadow of the Almighty. This surely is a safe abiding place - a place where we may receive instruction from Him who said "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you not as the world giveth give I unto you." When there is the most terrible war being waged in Europe that was ever witnessed, how it behoves all who profess to be followers of Christ to let their light so shine before men that it may hasten the day when swords will be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks. "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war any more." This better day will bring the brotherhood of man the federation of the world.

The various sittings of our Yearly Meeting this year have been seasons of refreshing from the Lord of Hosts. A few Friends have been with us from a distance who have been enabled to proclaim the unsearchable riches of God's love in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, and the seasons of silent waiting were solemn and impressive. And our earnest desire is that God will keep you as in the hollow of His hand and strengthen you for every good word and work.

With love we are your friends

1915

To Ohio Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:-

Those who are outside the membership of a small Yearly Meeting can hardly realize the comfort and strength which come from other Yearly Meetings through epistles indicted under the power of the Holy Spirit. There is a sense of broad and yet close fellowship in the deep things of the spirit and deep answers unto deep, when "the spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God". It is under a cover of this feeling that we acknowledge with grateful hearts the receipt of your two epistles which have spoken a word of comfort and to our encouragement.

We have met under the shadow of a great cloud, nations in death struggle, a war without parallel in its extent, in its savagery and in its death dealings. Our inmost ears hear the cries of the widows, of the fatherless, of the weak children, of the wounded and of the dying; and our hearts go out in petition to our Father in Heaven, "to bind up the broken hearted" "to comfort all that mourn", to let His light shine out of darkness, so that out of all of this travail of body and soul there may come a clearer vision of the Saviour of mankind, a closer walk with Him, that shall bring peace on earth and an earnest striving after the things of the Spirit in place of the death struggle for the things of the world. In very truth we are confirmed in our doctrine of non-resistance which is but the acceptance of the teachings and of the life of our Lord and Saviour. This testimony with His help, let us in sincerity and in humility bear to the end, ever mindful that this war is not the outcome of Christianity, as some would have us believe, but the result of a failure on the part of some Christians really to live the life of the Divine Master; nay, more shall we not say it is due to the failure of all to live up to the light which has been given, for we all have sinned and fallen far short of that fullness of stature to which the Christian is called.

Oh come now as if in the near future the members of our religious society might have fresh tryings and provings of their testimonies, and we crave grace and strength for all, that we may be humble, patient and faithful. In this connection we may well recall the words of the Saviour, "Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of Man also confess before the angels of God"

We feel sure that these are but the echoes of your own thoughts given utterance by us as one heart answereth another, and we close this short salutation to our brethren and sisters of the same household of faith, with the loving petition that we may all "Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

To Western Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends

As we have been permitted to assemble in our annual gathering, your words of love, sympathy and encouragement have touched a tender cord in our hearts, and led us to exclaim with the Psalmist "Bless the Lord O my soul and all that is within me bless His holy name, Bless the Lord O my soul and forget not all His benefits" And we have been led earnestly to seek that our words to you may not be in our own wisdom, but that the through our weak instrumentality may strengthen our bonds of fellowship.

We have had with us at this time those who have come from a great distance, and we feel they have come in that love that knows no bounds, which assures to us that we are not forgotten.

That we may heed the admonition so gently given, that we glory not in our outward things nor in any gift, He may bestow, but rather in the cross that draws us to learn at the dear Master's feet, and we earnestly desire for them that they may have the "well done" for their sacrifices and

for the bread of life they have been enabled to break so acceptably with us.

That great reaper, death has been permitted to cast his sickle among us until it would almost seem there were too few to keep the ranks of our firm. Still we have been admonished not to mourn but rather rejoice that they have been permitted to enter in where the weary are forever at rest, believing He is able to raise up those who shall receive the mantles laid down and carry them forward to His honor and glory.

Finally, dear friends may we desire that unity, which shall ever keep us co-workers in upholding an outward and an inward peace.

To Iowa Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

The revolving year has brought us together again in our annual assembly- but oh! there are so many vacancies- our ranks are thinning. At this time age and sickness are claiming some who have been as pillars in the Church Militant, but we trust they are ripening and will be found worthy of entering the Church Triumphant; when "Immanuel Steward give up thy stewardship." We are inclined to exclaim, "The fathers where are they and the prophets do they live forever?" united with the Saviour's plaintive language "daughters of Jerusalem" weep for yourselves and for your children"

But with the various discouraging things that surround us we are confident there is yet a God whose mercies are over all His works, that "there is forgiveness with Thee that thou mayest be feared," for we have all sinned and come short of the gracious designs of the Master Builder. We have much to remind us in our low condition of the continued of Israel's unslumbering Shepherd: for the gospel message has been solemnly sound

by lips touched with a live coal from the holy
altar, that we desire to pass through the fiery
and be more in earnest to take up the daily
cross. There is no other way to obtain the crown
In our business transactions we repudiate
the design of getting something for nothing.
Then how can we presume to lay claim
to that crown if we do not comply with the
great plan of our souls salvation, and pay
the price.

The company of the three dear friends from your
Yearly Meeting with the message of Gospel love
spoken and unspoken have been strengthening
and encouraging, so that we do feel "the Lords
hand is not shortened that it cannot save neither
his ear heavy that it cannot hear," the humble
pleadings of tender lambs of His fold wherever
situated.

The war cloud that has darkened the East
has taken gratitude from the land, but we are
advised "Fret not thyself because of evil doers,
neither be thou envious against the workers of
iniquity; for they shall soon be cut down like
the grass and wither as the green herb. Trust
in the Lord and do good.

Your acceptable epistle with others have been
read, & this time to our satisfaction.

With a salutation of love we are your friends.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends:-

Having been permitted once
more to assemble as a Yearly Meeting that precious
fellowship which unites those who are striving
to walk in the way shown them by our Lord and
Master has been livingly felt among us and this
feeling has extended to those who although separa-
ted by distance from us have been brought very
near by the reading of the loving messages of

sympathy and encouragement. Some realize that there is one Lord, one faith and one baptism. That one is our Master even Christ and all we are brethren, and followers of Him who is the Prince of Peace Our hearts are filled with sorrow on account of the destruction that prevails in the East. Oh that we may indeed keep close to the Master so that when the Golden sceptre is extended we may be our petition to the throne of grace that our rulers may be given strength and wisdom to enable them to keep our loved nation from becoming embroiled in the conflict and the terrible scourge of war may cease and that the world may know that there is indeed a righteous God that judgeth in the earth.

We have been favored, at this time, with the company and gospel labors of several dear friends from other parts of the Lord's heritage. The counsel which we have received has strengthened and encouraged us to renew our diligence to make our calling and election sure and we feel that our Heavenly Father has indeed blessed us and enabled us sit as it were in heavenly place in Christ Jesus.

While the "ways of Zion mourn because so few come to her solemn feasts", yet we have been encouraged to let our light so shine that others may come to glorify our Father who is in heaven.

Finally brethren farewell. Be perfect. Be of good cheer. Be of one mind; live in peace and the God of love and peace shall be with you

With a salutation of love we remain your friends

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:

Although the epistle you sent last year is not at hand, yet we do feel to salute you in that love which knows no bounds, desiring that you with us and we

with you may draw nigh unto God, the Father of all our sure mercies, that we may receive that spiritual food that we so much need.

During the various sittings of our Yearly Meeting there was a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit and gospel truths were proclaimed in demonstration of the spirit and of power, and the seasons of silent waiting were impressive, and we were individually instructed by the Ministers of Ministers and we trust that it may be of lasting benefit to us.

Dear friends, you have been brought very near to us at this our annual gathering and we desire that the cord which binds may grow stronger and stronger as time rolls on; and we feel to say to you "Look the Unslumbering Shepherd of Israel oftener than the returning morning for that strength, without which you can do no good thing. "Ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you" said our Saviour. O! then let us ask of him in faith nothing wavering for the bread and water of Life.

While dark war clouds are over the nations of the Old World; all who have the welfare of the human family at heart should heed and try to live up to the Scriptural injunction, "Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for we wrestle not against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." It would seem from the declaration "One may chase a thousand and two put ten thousand to flight", that a comparatively small number of people when they have a living concern to improve the condition of the things of this world, would be able to hasten that better day foretold by the Prophet "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war any more."

Then may you and we be in readiness to do our part of the work, by letting our light so shine before men that they may see our good works and glorify our Father who is in Heaven.

And may His everlasting arm be underneath to strengthen and sustain us is our earnest prayer.

With a salutation of love we are your friends.

1916

At our New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly, Rhode Island, with Public Meetings for Worship on First Day, the 4th of Sixth Month, 1916, and on Second Day, the 5th with a Meeting for Discipline.

By accounts received from Rhode Island and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings of Friends the representatives therein named to attend this Meeting are Amos C. Foster, Lucy W. Foster, Eunice B. Nichols, Eunice B. Clark, Charles Perry, Mary P. Foster, Anna A. Gardner, Joel S. Gilley, Mary Anna Cutler, Horace B. Foster, Mary C. Foster, Jesse K. Tucker, and Elizabeth G. Wilbur, whose names being called all are present.

Our beloved Friend attended this Meeting with a minute from Rich Square Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Rich Square Northampton County, North Carolina, 2nd Month 19th 1916, endorsed by Eastern Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Oak Grove, Wayne County, North Carolina 2nd Month 26th 1916, liberating him to visit in Gospel love the Yearly Meetings now in correspondence with North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends and some or all of the meetings and families constituting said Yearly Meetings also happening some meetings among the larger body of Friends and others shall way open for it, to labor within the limit of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and perform such other religious service as Truth

may open the way, he being a minister of Gospel of Christ with whom they have unity.

His company and Gospel labor have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute and sign it on behalf of the Meeting.

Our beloved Friend Bonn G. Hall attended this Meeting with a minute from Somerset Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Ridge, near Barnesville, Ohio 4th. Month 25th. 1916, endorsed by Stillwater Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Stillwater, near Barnesville, Ohio the 31st. of 5th. Month, 1916, liberating him to visit in the love of the Gospel New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly Rhode Island, Canada Yearly Meeting and some of the meetings composing it by appointment or otherwise, also two meetings in New York State, he being a minister with whom they have unity.

His company and Gospel labor have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute signed on behalf of the Meeting.

Epistles have been received, and read at this time from Ohio, Ohio Western, Iowa, Kansas, North Carolina and Philadelphia Yearly Meetings, and from the General Meeting of Friends held at Frichley, England.

During the reading of these letters of love from our friends in different parts of the Lords heritage, a close attention was given to the reading by both young and old. Some parts of these letters were so nearly in accord with the testimonies given by the visitors in attendance of our Meeting, we must conclude that the sending of these tokens of remembrance from one meeting to another is rightly ordered, and we are led to believe that God is still able to be mouth, wisdom, tongue and utterance,

We appoint our Friends Arthur Perry, Mary P. Foster Eunice B. Nichols, Eunice B. Clark, Paul L. Gidley, James N. Oliver, Elizabeth D. Wilbur, Horace B. Foster, and Lucy N. Foster to prepare, if may open for it essays of replies to these letters received from the Yearly Meetings within the circle of our correspondence and also one to the General Meeting held at Britchly, England, and produce them at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The Clerk was directed to make a suitable reply to the epistle from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. We have particularly noted the appointment of a permanent Committee on Peace by your Yearly Meeting and with a view of co-operating with that and all similar committees we have appointed the following Committee on Peace: Arthur Perry, Paul L. Gidley, Horace B. Foster, Thomas Perry, William J. Clark, Eva L. Foster, Phebe H. Perry, Alice N. Gidley, Gertrude E. Foster, Anne C. Foster, Elizabeth D. Wilbur, Charles Perry, Anna Foster, Jessi R. Tucker, James N. Oliver, Thomas P. Nichols and Henry H. Perry.

We appoint our Friends William J. Clark Alice N. Gidley, Anne C. Foster, Eunice B. Clark, Lucy N. Foster, and Emma J. Oliver to prepare a Summary of the answers to the Queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

We appoint our Friends Jessi R. Tucker, Anne C. Foster and James N. Oliver a committee to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of this Meeting and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year, and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and propose the name of a Friend to serve the Meeting as Clerk and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to the fourth hour this afternoon.

Second Day afternoon, at about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned Men and Women Friends again assembled, the names of the representatives being called all are present.

Horace B. Foster, on behalf of the representatives, reports that they had met and were united in proposing the name of Pat S. Gidley for Clerk and Mary P. Foster for Assistant Clerk, their names being separately considered by the Meeting the proposition has united with and they are appointed for those service for the ensuing year, or until others are appointed in their places.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read, at this time and approved, and it was concluded to reappoint Jonathan Chace, Anne C. Foster, Anna C. Chace, James H. Tucker, Jesse K. Tucker, Mary P. Foster, Charles Perry, Pat S. Gidley, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Eunice B. Nichols, Isabel L. Gifford, Arthur Perry, Lucy H. Foster, Horace B. Foster, James H. Oliver, Mary C. Foster, Mary Anna Oliver, Anna A. Gardner, Thomas Perry, and Eunice B. Clarke to constitute the Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

The Queries were read, at this time, with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Providence Quarterly Meetings of Friends, together with a Summary prepared by the committee appointed at the first Sitting of this Meeting, which is thought to be descriptive of our present state, and the Clerk is directed to record the same.

When considering the state of society as it was shown by the answers to the Queries a precious spirit prevailed over the Meeting, bringing young and old into unity of spirit, and living words of encouragement were spoken, in which the trust may sink deep into our very heart

and incite us to double our diligence that we may make our calling and election sure,

Thirdly in giving examples of followers of Christ and how we can come after us may take knowledge thereby that we had been with Jesus.

Adjourned to the Third Hour Third Day afternoon. Third Day afternoon at about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned Men and Women Friends again assembled.

The names of the representatives being called they are all present but one, for whose absence a satisfactory reason was given.

The essays of replies to the Epistles received, prepared by the committee named at the first sitting of this Meeting, were read and approved and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Canada, Ohio, Western, Iowa, Kansas and North Carolina Yearly Meetings and to the General Meeting of Friends of Britain, England, and sign the same on behalf of the Meeting.

The proposition of making some change in the wording of the answers to the Queries coming before the Meeting from Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Friends, it was concluded to appoint the following Friends a committee to take the subject under consideration and report at our Yearly Meeting next year.

Charles Perry, Arthur Perry, P. D. Gidley, Grace B. Foster, William T. Oliver, Lucy H. Foster, Sophia T. Perry, Anna A. Gardner, Mary P. Foster, Emma B. Clarke, Mary C. Foster, Jesse R. Tucker, Thomas Perry, James N. Oliver, and Thomas P. Nichols.

The Committee on Books and Tracts make the following report.

A number of tracts have been distributed, several volumes of Friends' Books, Bibles and Passages from Holy Writ. They seem to have been much appreciated. Effort have been made to strengthen the cause of peace in these troublous times

Gertrude E. Foster, for the Committee

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and it was concluded to reappoint James H. Tucker, Job S. Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Anna H. Chace, Elizabeth C. Wilbur, Anna A. Gardner, Emma A. H. Perry, Gertrude E. Foster, Sarah E. Mitchell, Susanna T. Gunnison, James N. Oliver, Francis J. Gunnison, Mary E. Foster, Elizabeth E. Gidley and Elizabeth Perry a committee to procure such books and tracts as they think desirable for distribution, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

The committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting to examine the Treasurer's account and propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year make the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the account of the Treasurer of this Meeting have attended to the service.

They find the account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed and a balance of $1,104.47 They are united in proposing the name of Harvey C. Perry for Treasurer for the ensuing year

James N. Oliver, On behalf of the Committee.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is reappointed Treasurer of this Meeting for the ensuing year or until another appointment.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting together with Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings addressed to this Meeting.

The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Charles Perry of Berkley R.D. Job S. Gidley of N. Dartmouth, Mass and James N. Oliver of Lynn Mass. are reappointed correspondents of this Meeting for the ensuing year.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the Minutes of this Meeting and sign them on its behalf.

The business claiming our attention has been completed in love and harmony, and soon we shall separate and return to our several homes; but since we have been so bountifully fed from the table the query arises, "What shall we render unto the Lord for all His benefits towards us?" And this query comes as an answer thereto; "What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

We now conclude our purpose to meet at this place at the usual time next year if consistent with the Divine will

Robt S. Gidley Clerk.

Summary. Answers to the Queries.

Ans 1st All our meetings for worship and discipline have been held, except three evening meetings and one Select Meeting, Meetings on First days are well attended by most of our members when health permits, week-day meetings and those for discipline are not usually attended, some being prevented by distance. The hour is nearly observed, mostly clear of sleep, and no other unbecoming behavior has come to our notice.

Ans 2nd Love and unity are maintained in a good degree, Detraction is guarded against. No differences have been brought to our notice.

Ans 3rd Friends are concerned to bring up their children in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel to restrain them from pernicious reading and from the corrupt conversation of the world, and by good example therein themselves. Yet more care in these respects is needful. We believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends families

Ans 4th Clear of the use of spirituous, and Friends generally avoid places of public resort, and observe moderation and temperance on all occasions.

Ans. 5th. Some needing assistance, Friends' children are given a good education to fit them for business. No children have been placed from among Friends

Ans. 6th. We believe that parents and heads of families are concerned that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline.

Ans. 7th. Friends desire to maintain a faithful testimony against a paid ministry. Clear in the other parts of the query.

Ans. 8th. We believe Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts. They are punctual to their promises, and just in the payment of their debts and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances.

Ans. 9th. We believe Friends have a care to have all their marriages, births, deaths and burials duly recorded. No removal since our last account.

Ans. 10th. We believe a care rests with Friends to deal with offenders, when necessary as the discipline requires. There has been no dealing or placing of judgment since our last account.

Copies of Epistles to other Yearly Meetings

To Canada Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:

When leaving our homes to convene in this capacity once more, we felt that we were indeed, "the least in our Father's house" and were hardly able to hold a Yearly Meeting; but beyond our expectation, the Great Master of assemblies, condescended to our low estate and overshadowed us with His life giving, life sustaining presence; verifying in the declaration "God is no respecter of persons". We can sympathize with you in - "It is a day of trouble and treading down"; but oh what a double one - that "We have an advocate with the Father" One who is as a high tower, a shield, in whom we may trust". Realizing this - we extend to you "Lord, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him! or the son of man that thou makest

account of him; – but dear ones, we may remember that we are His by creation, and through redeeming love, may be His by adoption. The promise is "God will not forsake His own." Then let us take fresh courage and press on toward those things that are before. We are admonished "to stand fast and hold the traditions which we have been taught;"

This must be in the manner of life or the tradition will become a dead letter and will be no more acceptable to the Father than those of the days of old.

We have cause for humble gratitude to "the Father of mercies" that some of His anointed servants have been sent to labor among us, at this time. We have been fondly reminded that we should not deck these frail bodies of ours after the changeable fashions of the world "that women adorn themselves in modest apparel", and that we should also be clothed with the meek and quiet spirit of the humble Jesus.

We know the necessity of food for our mortal bodies and that it is just as necessary for the immortal soul to be nourished with spiritual food. Our earnest desire is that the precious seed sown, may not have fallen upon stony ground, but that fruit may, in due time, appear to the praise of the Great Husbandman.

We are not unmindful of the antichristians to which you are subject, and from which the mind recoils, and the cry is, O Lord, how long! And our sincere desire and prayer is for that time when "Nations shall learn war no more" Our own land has, as yet escaped its blighting effect, and we greatly desire that they whose influence may be so endued with true wisdom that our nation may escape such a terrible calamity. Often let us humbly crave of Him, that His designs whatever they may be, concerning your land and ours, may be accomplished, and His peaceable kingdom established from the rivers unto the ends of the earth. Dear ones, we must remember it was promised by the lips of Truth

"that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God."

We were instructed by your epistle of last year. Bowbidding you farewell, in that love which is enduring, we remain your friends

In Christ Early Meeting.

Dear Friends, -

In a measure of unchangable love, we feel, at this time, to address you, desiring that you and we may ever be kept upon the sure foundation. - The Rock of Ages" For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid which is Jesus Christ" And we must believe that the larger the number is that are thus kept, the greater will be their influence for civic righteousness.

That so many professed Christian nations should be engaged in the most awful war in the twentieth century of the Christian era that was ever known, shows clearly that the people of the world have come to the parting of the ways. That we must be possessors of Christianity, for profession without possession availeth us nothing. How important it is then for all who believe in Gods love, and that His kingdom is to be set up in the earth, and "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war any more", to heed and live up to the teachings of our Savior.

We believe, if they who feel called to religious labor would grasp this message of our risen Lord "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, Teaching them to observe whatsoever I have commanded them" many would feel to exclaim in the words of Isaiah the prophet "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of Him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good

that publisheth salvation that saith unto Zion, "Thy God reigneth." And if all who profess to believe in Him who bringeth these good tidings, would be true followers of Him, and thereby become His children by adoption, we must believe that He would, very soon, end all warfare, the liquor traffic, and all other kindred diseases that are sapping the life blood of the nations. The Society of Friends has a great work to do in the outside world

It has been well said by a writer on the other side of the Atlantic: "If the Society of Friends is to do its true work for the world, it must learn, and more to agree upon its central message, and that if ever it is to reach such agreement it must understand the cause of division."

O may you and we ever be kept spiritually alive and steadfast by the Great Master Builder to the end, that we may do our part of the work.

May none among you be carried away by the "Lo heres, and the lo theres," or by the great excitement concerning "preparedness." Prepare to meet thy God" we believe is the best kind of preparedness both for individuals and for nations.

A number of friends from other Yearly Meetings, a few from yours, are with us at this time, whose company, solid deportment and Gospel labors have been to us as a brook by the way, and we are inclined to believe that if the members of our Society were more faithful, a larger number would be journeying from place to place as it was in the early history of our Society.

Your two epistles, with others, were read to our satisfaction and encouragement. And we can say with you "May they ever be kept in life." If the writers of these letters would look to Him who alone giveth life to the humble meet we have any fear of the result? Our Meeting, though small, was felt to be owned by the Great Head of the Church, and hearts were contrited before Him and to bless his

holy name. May your Yearly Meeting be a season of refreshing to you, and may you each and all grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" With love we are your friends,

To Western Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends,

What a precious thought that time and distance cannot separate us from our God, but wherever his children met in His name there will He be in the midst. And does not His gracious promise remain the same? "Lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." In an especial manner have we been made to feel, that although so few and unworthy, we are not forgotten; for, messengers from different parts have heeded a call to visit us, at this time, with words of love, encouragement and admonition. Repeatedly have we been enjoined to remember that "this is life eternal, that they might know thee only true God and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent", as our Redeemer. And "In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths".

A bountiful table has indeed been spread in our midst where by the hungering and thirsting soul might be satisfied; but may we remember we only can take, as it were a days supply and we must know of being daily fed with hidden manna, or we perish.

We desire with you that each of us renew our diligence in all that pertains to peace. Have we not a mission to our brothers and sisters in Christ who have not interpreted His message as friends have? that they might more fully realize that a part of the armour of righteousness is "having our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace". Steward give an account of thy stewardship" is the summons that has come to several

among us since we met a year ago, and we see one called on the right hand and another on the left. Are we not admonished to live in watching the day when a like call shall come to us?

One generation is succeeded by another, and the same problems of life, and similar trials and temptations await all, for our proving, that we may be brought to realize that our strength is but weakness, and to cry "Jehovah Jehovah Redeemer or perish."

One who had long been a faithful mother in Israel to us, has been called to reap the reward of her labors, and while we now rejoice for her; we have found it hard not to mourn the great loss which is ours.

We have felt a deep desire that the mantle which are being laid down among you and us, may be taken up by those who are willing to be faithful, and that through great mercy, we may, at last, hear that wonderful home welcome "Well done good and faithful servant enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

To Iowa Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:-

Again we salute you in the love of the Gospel at this our annual gathering. We have with us dear friends from other Yearly Meetings who have spoken to our condition and have had to us such message of Gospel love in such words of plainness that if he will, none can miss the way. The attendance of our own members is large this year than usual which gives us hope and encouragement.

The great conflict which is now raging in the world brings to mind, with new life, the principles of peace set forth by our Saviour in his Sermon on the Mount, and for which our fathers in former times suffered so much to maintain,

We feel much sympathy for our friends on the other side of the Atlantic, where the suffering is close at hand, even in their very midst; and we are reminded of the words spoken by a dear Friend in a former Yearly Meeting, "Words, I have no words to describe the advantages we in this country enjoy beyond those of other nations."

We notice that you say, "Troubles of one kind and another seem to abound," at the present time, but let us not give way to discouragements.

Our Saviour said; "In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world," The full consciousness of this declaration should give us strength, and with the peace that is promised to those who are trying to follow in the footsteps of our blessed Lord and Master we should, "Press toward the mark for the prize" — Our being preserved even in the very midst of trials and distressing conditions, Whatever may come to us, we shall be able to bear, if we can but feel that we have our Heavenly Father's presence and support; and surely nothing but sin can separate us from His love. It is comforting to remember that we have an Advocate with the Father, even Jesus Christ, "who when personally on earth" was, "in all points tempted like as we are yet without sin"

And now dear Friends farewell. May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, strengthen and support you always.

To Kansas Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends.

Having once more been permitted to assemble as a Yearly Meeting, we have been made sensible that our Heavenly Father's love and care have been round about us, and that as a "Father pitieth his children so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." We have been tendered and melted together by the evidence that has been

givenness, that He whom we profess to love and serve, has indeed visited us, and blessed our little gathering, and our minds have been turned to our brethren and sisters in other parts of the Lord's heritage, desiring to share with them as much as possible, the blessings that we have received for it is "Not by might nor by power but by my spirit saith the Lord of Hosts". By his spirit we are strengthened and made able to maintain the Christian warfare against every thing that would injure and destroy in His holy mountain. Oh how important it is for all of us to maintain our testimonies to that inward spiritual guidance, which alone enables us to keep clear of the snares and pitfalls of the enemy of our souls salvation.

The condition of the world today calls loudly upon all who profess to be followers of the Prince of Peace, to maintain, in every way, our testimony against war and the preparation for war.

We have had, at this time, a number of dear friends from other Yearly Meetings whose company and gospel labors have been as a refreshing stream of water of life. So we can truly say that we have been baptized into the one spirit by the outpouring of our Heavenly Father's love, and that the "doctrine has distilled as the dew", to our humbling admiration and encouragement. While we are very few in numbers, we have been made to believe that the Lord's work is going on in the hearts of some of our younger members, and our earnest desires are that nothing may "mar the work on the wheel", but that they may be fitted for the places designed for them by the Great Head of the Church, and that a measure of those who have been called from works to rewards may rest upon them.

Several dear friends who were with us last year have been taken from us, to the full their loss, but we know that He who, in the past, prepared and qualified faithful servants, is still able to raise up "Judges as at the first and counsellors as at the beginning".

The reading of your epistle and of ... has been comforting to us and we feel drawn near to you though we are widely

May we be drawn still closer together in Gospel love and sympathy, and be so strengthened by that Divine Power that we may continue "stedfast unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord" that our labor may not be in vain in the Lord, is our earnest desire. With love engrossed we are your friends

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends.

At this time of incomparable stress and strain in the world's history, our little meeting comes together for its annual gathering, humbly waiting upon the Lord, to learn what his mission for us may be. We are favored by the presence of several Friends from distant vicinities, who, by their messages of courage and faith, and by their sweet, silent communion, have given us renewed hope for the future, so that we feel sure God must have been very near to them when He directed their steps towards us.

This message of faith, dear Friends, we forward to you feeling that now is the time to prove ourselves worthy of that precious heritage which has been handed down to us. Now is the time to prove that the spirit of the early Friends, who endured humiliation, suffering and even death for their belief, is as courageous as it was two hundred years ago. We feel that the Friendly principle of non resistance was never so needed in the world as it is today, teaching, as it does, that love is the foundation of God's kingdom, and that he who would follow Christ, must forgive "not until seven times but until seventy times seven"

Our desire is that the love, wherewith God hath loved us, may enter into our very soul, so that we may feel the brotherhood not only of nation toward nation, but that of race to race and man to man. We pray for you and for ourselves that by bearing this constantly in mind for brotherly love,

we may arrive at a deeper realization of that Fatherly love, which passeth all understanding.

We are indeed few in numbers, but we feel that God has been in the midst of us, and has laid so beautiful a covering over the meetings, that we can go forth, renewed in spirit, feeling a vitalizing sense of His holy communion.

Through the Epistles, which have been read from our corresponding meetings we have become deeply sensible of the feeling of fellowship which permeates each one, and we feel more than ever bound together in that greatest of all fellowships, which is with God. It is by such loving and sympathetic messages that distance is forgotten, lack of personal acquaintance is lost sight of, fades from view, and we all become as one family in Christ. May this sense of nearness remain with us, and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

1917

At New England Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Westerly, Rhode Island, with Public Meetings for Worship on First Day the 3rd of Sixth Month 917, and on Second Day the 4th with a Meeting for Discipline.

The Assistant Clerk having removed to another Yearly Meeting, Lucy H. Foster is appointed Assistant Clerk for the present session.

By accounts received from Sandwich and Rhode Island quarterly Meetings of Friends the representatives therein named to attend this Meeting are Hannah H. Hobbs, Charles Perry, Anne C. Foster, Eunice B. Nichols, Eunice B. Clark, Sybil Gidley, Jesse R. Tucker, Anna Foster, Mary Anna Chase, Elizabeth G. Wilbur, Alice H. Gidley, William J. Chase, Henry C. Foster, Horace B. Foster and Jennie H. Tucker, whose names being called they are all present but one, for whose absence a satisfactory reason was given.

Our dear friend Sybil B. Barker, attended this Meeting with a minute from Marlboro Monthly Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Jonesboro, South Carolina, 1st mo 20th 1917, endorsed by Southern Quarterly Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Holly Spring, Randolph County, No. Ca the 27th of 1st Mo. 1917 liberating her to attend all the Yearly Meetings as they come in course, with which South Carolina Yearly Meeting corresponds, and some of the meetings composing them, mingling with the members thereof as may open for it, in their homes, also to attend Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and a few of the meetings belonging thereto, and to engage in any other service either by appointment or otherwise for which truth seems to open the way, she being a minister of the Gospel with whom we have unity.

Her company and Gospel labors have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish her with a copy of this minute signed on behalf of the Meeting.

Our dear friend Seamon E. Barker attended this Meeting with a minute from Marlboro Monthly Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Jonesboro South Carolina, First Month, 20th 1917 endorsed by Southern Quarterly Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Holly Spring Randolph County South Carolina the 27th of First Month 1917, to accompany his wife Sybil B. Barker on her proposed religious visit, he being an Elder with whom we have unity.

His social deportment and labors of love have been acceptable to us and the Clerk is directed to furnish him with a copy of this minute signed on behalf of the Meeting.

Epistles have been received and read at this time from Canada, Western, Ohio, Iowa and Kansas Yearly Meetings of Friends and from the

General Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley, England,

These letters from our Friends in that place, all contain messages of love and good cheer, and words of encouragement for us to be faithful in maintaining our testimonies in regard to peace in these troublous times through which we are passing. We feel that these letters have been helpful to us, and that God is able to prepare His servants for the different kinds of labor unto which He calls them.

We appoint our Friends Thomas Perry Swanwick, Quinton, Mary Anna Oliver, Mary C. Foster Francis Quinton, James H. Oliver, Ella Perry Gilly, Horace B. Foster, Hannah H. Webster, and Ennis B. Clark to prepare, if they have not, essays or replies to these letters received from other Yearly Meetings, to the South Carolina Yearly Meeting, and to the General Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley, England, and produce them at the future sitting of this Meeting.

We appoint our Friends Arthur Perry, Anna C. Foster, Mary C. Foster and James H. Oliver to prepare a Summary of answers to the Queries and present it at the sitting this afternoon.

We appoint our Friends, Jesse R. Tucker and Henry C. Foster, a committee to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of this Meeting, to propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year and report at a future sitting of this Meeting.

The representatives are requested to meet at the close of this sitting and propose the name of a Friend to serve this Meeting as Clerk, and the name of another Friend for Assistant Clerk, and report at the opening of the sitting this afternoon.

Adjourned to 3 30 o'clock this afternoon.

second Day afternoon, at about the time to which the Quarterly is adjourned Men and Women Friends again assembled. The names of the representatives being called they were present as at our first sitting.

James C. Foster, on behalf of the representatives, reports that they had met and that they were united in proposing the names of Jno. S. Tiddy for Clerk and Lucy H. Foster for Assistant Clerk, their names being separately considered, the proposition was united with by the Meeting and they are appointed to those services for the ensuing year or until others are appointed in their places.

The records of the Meeting for Sufferings were read, at this time and approved and it was concluded to reappoint Jonathan Chace, Anna H. Chace, James H. Tucker, Anna C. Foster, Isaac R. Tucker, Charles Perry, Jno. S. Tiddy Elizabeth P. Wilbur Eunice B. Nichols Isabel S. Gifford, Esther Perry, Lucy H. Foster, Horace S. Foster, James H. Oliver, Mary C. Foster, Mary Anna Cornell, Anna A. Gardner, Thomas Perry and Eunice B. Clark, and to appoint Francis T. Swinden and Elizabeth P. Nichols to constitute the Meeting for Sufferings for the ensuing year.

The Epistles were read at this time, with answers thereto from Rhode Island and Swarthmore Quarterly Meetings of Friends, together with a Summary prepared by the committee named at the first sitting of this Meeting which is thought to describe our present state and the Clerk is directed to record the same.

When considering the state of society, as shown by the reading of the answers to the Queries, we were brought into sweet unity of spirit, and much encouragement were handed forth for us to be faithful to the inshining light of Truth in our own hearts

Our Savior said "and I, if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto me" and "If ye love not a man whom ye have seen, how can ye love Me whom ye have not seen"

The committe appointed at our Yearly Meeting last year to consider the subject of changing the wording of the Queries, make the following report, which is satisfactory to the Meeting, and the Queries as revised are referred to the Meeting for Sufferings to be printed with the Minutes of this Meeting and also in leaflet form.

Queries

1. Are all our religious Meetings for Worship and Discipline duly attended? Do the hour for gathering observed, and are Friends clear of all unbecoming behavior therein?

2. Do love and unity maintained among you? Is detraction guarded against? And when any differences arise are they lovingly and speedily settled?

3. Are you concerned faithfully to uphold in sincerity and fervency spiritual worship and to a free Gospel ministry exercised under the immediate authority and anointing of the Holy Spirit?

4. Are Friends concerned to bring up their children in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel? To restrain them from pernicious readings, and to guard them from the harmful influence of worldly associations?
Are their good examples therein remarked? And are the Holy Scriptures frequently read in their families?

5. Are you careful to discourage the unnecessary manufacture, sale and use of alcoholic liquors? Do you avoid all harmful luxuries, and are you careful to keep in true simplicity at the time of marriage, and all other occasions?

6. Are the necessities of Friends in need of assistance duly inspected, and are they relieved as the case requires? Are they helped in procuring for their children sufficient education to fit them for the duties of life? And to avoid endeavor to keep their children under the care and influence of those in membership with them?

7. Do you maintain a faithful testimony against all strife, learning arms, training and other military matters, being concerned in any fraudulent or clandestine business, buying or selling goods unlawfully and unduly imported, and against engaging in or encouraging lotteries or other forms of gambling?

8th. Are Friends careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances and to keep to moderation in their trades or business? Are they punctual to their promises, just in the payment of their debts, and honest in all their dealings?

9. Do parents and those having the care of the youth concerned to instruct them in the principles of Truth professed by us, and careful to guard all against unsuitable marriages? Are all marriages, births, deaths and burials duly recorded? Have there been any removals without certificates?

10. Do you take due care to deal with all offenders, in the spirit of meekness and wisdom, without partiality or unnecessary delay? And is judgment placed where it is necessary in the authority of Truth according to our Discipline?

Adjourned to the Third hour, Third Day afternoon one.

Third Day afternoon the 5th, At about the time to which the Meeting was adjourned Friends again assembled. The names of the representatives being called they were found as at our first sitting. The essays of replies to the Epistles received, prepared by the committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting were read and approved and the Clerk is directed to transcribe and forward the same to Canada Western, Ohio, Iowa, Kansas and North

Indiana Yearly Meetings of Friends and to the General Meeting of Friends held at Kibbly, England.

The committee appointed at the first sitting of this Meeting to examine the Treasurers account and to propose the name of a Friend for Treasurer for the ensuing year make the following report:

The committee appointed by the Meeting to examine the Treasurers account have attended to that service and find the account correctly kept and the proper vouchers filed and there is a balance of one thousand and three hundred and fifteen and 36 100 Dollars $1315.36

They are united in proposing the name of Harvey C. Perry for Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the ensuing year.

Jesse R. Tucker for the Committee

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and Harvey C. Perry is reappointed Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting for the ensuing year, until another appointment.

Books and Tracts

The Committee on Books and Tracts make the following report; We have distributed about the usual number of tracts, some on hand and then subject, also a number of Friends books, People seem glad to learn of our principles in this way. We have also endeavored to be faithful in the cause of peace as opportunity offered.

Gertrude E. Foster for the Committee.

The report is satisfactory to the Meeting and it was concluded to re-appoint James H. Tucker of Kibbly, Jesse R. Tucker, Arthur Perry, Emma A. Gardner, Emma H. Chase, Elizabeth E. Wilbur, Emma A. F. Perry, Gertrude E. Foster, Sarah E. Mitchell, Susanna H. Swindon, Lewis W. Wilson, Francis T. Swindon, Ann E. Foster, Elizabeth E. Kibbly and Elizabeth Perry a committee to procure such books and tracts as they think desirable for distribution, and they are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of this Meeting for any expense thereby incurred.

The subject of the writing of testimonies coming before this Meeting at this time it was concluded to refer it to the Meeting for Sufferings with power to act thereon.

It was concluded to print the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting together with the Epistles received from other Meetings addressed to this Meeting. The care of printing the Minutes and their distribution is referred to the Meeting for Sufferings. Charles Perry of Westerly Rhode Island, Joel S. Tidby of South Dartmouth, Mass. and James M. Oliver of Lynn Mass. are reappointed correspondents for the ensuing year.

The Clerk is directed to make all necessary extracts from the minutes of this Meeting and sign the same on its behalf. The business claiming our attention has been completed in love and harmony. We have been fed bountifully from the Master's table and may we heed the injunction "Gather up the fragments that remain that nothing be lost."

We now conclude, purposing to meet at this place, at the usual time next year, if consistent with the Divine Will. Joel S. Tidby Clerk.

Summary Answers to the Queries.

Ans. 1st. All our meetings for religious worship and those for discipline have been held. Meetings on First days are attended by most of our members when health permits. Mid week meetings and those for discipline are neglected by a few. Distance & other unavoidable circumstances prevent the attendance of some. The hour is nearly observed. Some instances of sleep, dress & other unbecoming behavior. Ans. 2nd. Love and unity are well maintained and detraction is guarded against. No differences have come to our notice. Ans. 3rd. Some Friends are concerned to bring up those under their care in plainness of speech, behavior and apparel, to restrain them from pernicious reading, and from the corrupt conversation of the world, and for the most part to good examples herein themselves, yet more care in these respects are needful. We believe the Holy Scriptures are frequently read in Friends' families. Ans. 4th. We believe Friends are careful to avoid the use of spirituous liquor, except for medicine, also the unnecessary frequenting of taverns and places of public resort, and to keep in true moderation on all occasions.

Ans. 5th There are no Friends needing pecuniary aid, Children duly partake of learning to fit them for business. No children are placed from among Friends, Ans. 6th We believe that parents and heads of families are desirous that all proceedings with respect to marriage be conformable to our discipline. Ans. 7th Friends desire to maintain a faithful testimony against a paid ministry, Clear in the other parts of this query. Ans. 8th We believe Friends are careful to inspect their affairs and settle their accounts. They are mostly punctual to their promises and just in the payment of their debts, and careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances. Ans. 9th We believe Friends have a care to have all their marriages, births, deaths and burials duly recorded. There have been few removals without certificates. Ans. 10th We believe a care rests with Friends to deal with offenders when necessary as discipline requires without much unnecessary delay. There has been no placing of judgments since our last account.

Epistles to other Yearly Meetings

To Canada Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends — Your acceptable Epistle was read to our encouragement and satisfaction for it is encouraging to be greeted by kindred spirits on the way.

And now that our own beloved country has entered into the great struggle beyond the sea we feel with you the necessity of being loyal to Him whom we profess to serve and call Master, whose kingdom is not of this world, for His command was, and still is: "Love your enemies, do good to them that hate and persecute you." The conditions that have been thrust upon us are so repulsive and foreboding we realize there is a greater necessity for each to have a sure foundation on which to rest till these calamities are overpast. And dear Friends a literal knowledge will not do, will not supply the needs of the immortal soul. It will not avail anything to graft any of the fruit of the tree of life upon the tree of knowledge, it will not flourish there. Holiness or an appearance may, but the purest fruit will not. It would be wise for those in power to consider this foolish people and cease to strive against Your own mercy, to do all we can to help forward all your merciful plans, but make it your work to break down the wall that defends You;

Many happiness is marred by the enemies dark suggestions and they work according to their nature, and if given place in the mind, how can they but darken and perplex? Oh let them be as strangers, receive them not, believe them not, own them not, and through the abundant mercy that is offered, we will find the darkness to abate, the strength of sin broken and come into possession of the inheritance bought by that sacrifice on Calvary's mount. Some can with humility feel that appropriateness of "Oh that man would praise the Lord for His goodness and for His wonderful works to the children of men."

We are persuaded, dear Friends, you are not strangers to these things, but only by way of remembrance have we spoken of them. With a salutation of love we are your friends.

To This Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends: We can conceive of no message from one friend or group of Friends that would not, at this time, dwell chiefly on one phase or another of the world war. Your own epistle to us, written in the Ninth Month shows that you were then bravely boldly but sadly the deepening current of misery and hatred loosed by the war. You prayed, as we all prayed, that our Society might be humbly instrumental in hastening the day of lasting peace.

At present we can see that our own country is stepping into the battle where the conflict so furious as to threaten universal annihilation. The Society of Friends, among certain other religious bodies exempted from military service, seeking how it may conscientiously help, has no desire to take its ease, unmindful of the awful suffering all around. Not unmoved has it beheld one nation after another gather its forces slowly and reluctantly and hurl itself into what it believed to be the final fight for freedom. What then shall be our part - we, who, on account of the faithfulness of our forefathers, find ourselves exempted from the conflict? Shall it be said that we accepted that exemption as entitling us to safe observation from which to view, without sharing, the sufferings of our fellowmen? We profess to be enrolled in the great army of Christ's followers, and in that army there are no exemptions, because it is a volunteer army in which service is required and freely given to the limit of the ability of every individual person.

Through the terrible agony men and women are enduring through the burden of grief they carry by day and by night, they are to know God more intimately, and there never was a time when our Society had such opportunities for spreading the gospel of Christ, the gospel of Christ who died for us and who yet lives and dies daily for us. Let us gird ourselves and minister unstintingly to the bodies and souls of all whom we can reach. Fervently do we pray that you and we and all who have ever had the vision of the infinite love of Christ, may do each his part toward making possible for Christ's kingdom to come on earth. If our high principles and aspirations have any reality for us, they will show forth during these days in unselfish service for our God and Master. With a message of love, we are your friends.

To Western Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends: Having again been permitted to assemble as a Yearly Meeting, we have been favored to feel a little revival of our spiritual strength through the condescension of the Great Head of the Church who has made known to us His living presence, baptizing us into one body by His spirit manifested in our hearts. We have been encouraged by the presence and message of love of some of the Lord's servants from a distance, and the epistles we have received from you and the other Yearly Meetings have all given evidence that the same power was working in all, enabling them to speak the same language, and be brought into the same feeling of deep sorrow for the desolations now prevailing in the world. In these days of wars and rumors of wars, when our own beloved land is also involved, how necessary that we should seek for that strength and wisdom to enable us as followers of a meek and crucified Lord and Savior to be faithful to His pure teaching of unselfish love and be firm in our allegiance to the Prince of Peace. In view of this condition how appropriate the prayer of the Psalmist for ourselves and our nation, "Be merciful unto me, O God, be mer-

ciful unto me for my soul trusteth in Thee, yea in the shadow of Thy wings will I make my refuge until these calamities be overpast." And again, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." Oh that we may all get into this abiding place by close attention to this inspiring word and obedience thereto, then shall our peace flow as a river and our righteousness be as the sands of the sea, therefore beloved friends, let us be steadfast unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for inasmuch as we know that our labor is not in vain in the Lord. For who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? With a salutation of love, we remain your Friends.

To Iowa Yearly Meeting,

Dear Friends:- As we gather under the shadow of a world wide tribulation and destruction that we have never known, at this time for our yearly meeting, with the necessity of a closer communication with our Heavenly Father, for a deeper faith in the final triumph of His plan, and for a renewal of our faltering strength, I would send all these words of love and fellowship as the Lord has helped me. We realize, as never before, as never before, the inspiration which may come through the sympathetic thought and prayerful messages of our distant friends. It is only thus the world may be knit together, it is only by joining together in worship - either by speaking or waiting or silent waiting that hearts may be brought into that close and holy relationship which Christ spoke of when He said, "I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. We write to you upon a day the most momentous and fraught with peace the sad days we have ever known, a day on which young men are offering their very best youth and vigor unto death, and bleeding with bleeding For all people it is a solemn day, but for the Society of Friends it has a peculiar significance, since, at this time we reap the harvest which our ancestors, through long and cruel years, have sown. Their strength to endure for

conscience and their steadfast vision of righteousness,
their unshaken faith in God and man has at last been
recognized. They suffered for their convictions, and in
their resurrection we rejoice the reward. Be sure, we
are sure all friends must feel, that this is not a time
for self-immunity, but rather it is a time for deep hu-
mility and prostration. Are we thinking of the exaltation
rather than of the sacrifice which has been for us, by their
sacrifice which they made, and which even today we
are making in the name of England? Can it not possibly be
in spite of the gratitude which we feel for our exemption
we may be losing the great spiritual uplift which will
by all who suffer for the faith that is in them? Be sure, that
it is more than ever necessary for us to consecrate our-
selves to the work which has been given us to do; for we
to be as little children kneeling and praying, carried about
with every wind of doctrine by the sleight of men and
cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but
speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him
in all things, which is the head even Christ. Thank you
again for your work in behalf of Russia. Can there not be an
ocean of tears and Death, and an infinite ocean
of light and love flowed over the ocean of darkness
and in that dear Infinite Love and Light, I am praying
for you and ourselves that through this ocean darkness
we may look about to behold that infinite love which passeth
all understanding." Apart of this letter of misery and
agony we can help to bring, I say, a deeper realization
of the meaning of Christ's love than we are living up to these
words which have been said since. By living more in our
homes we can help to lighten humanity's load, no sacrifice
can be too great to accomplish it—but above all love remem-
ber that only by complete faith in God can we hope to carry
out His will—and only by loving Him can we teach man-
kind to love one another. With a message of God's love
and Christian fellowship we are your friends.

Yours truly Hutchins

Dear Friends: In the love of God, what a
bond we feel in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given

unto us, be full to salute you, saying, "Joy to the world, the Lord is come, let earth receive her King, let every heart prepare him room and heaven and nature sing." When there is such a commotion going on in the world, it behooves all professors to be Christians to be faithful to the righteous Light of Truth in their own hearts, be ready to receive and welcome Him, in whose hand are the issues of Life and Death, and have our lamps trimmed and burning, that when the cry goes forth which is saying to us, "Behold the Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet him" we may be found of him that we may be able to withstand in the evil day and having done all, to stand" and, maintain our precious testimonies to a declining world. We are glad that you were able to say in your last letter that you had been stirred to "more faithfulness". Surely we should all be faithful standard bearers of the Truth, for the promise is, "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life". A few Friends from other Yearly Meetings are with us, and their company and counsel have been to us like a refreshing stream. [illegible]

And the various periods of silent waiting throughout the Yearly Meeting were precious seasons of Divine favor, and seemed, like the dew of Hermon, and as the oil that descended upon the mountains of Zion, for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore. And we can say, even in the words of the Psalmist, that Divine silent waiting is more to be desired than gold, yea than much fine gold, sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb."

During the reading of the queries with their various answers, many vocal supplications were offered up, and the spirit of prayer seemed to prevail, baptizing all into a sweet spirit, bringing young and old to give their undivided attention to the subject before the meeting.

Loving words of encouragement to greater faithfulness were extended, and oh, may they sink deeply into our hearts and bring forth fruit in honor of the Great Husbandman.

With love, we are your friends,

1917

To North Carolina Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends:- We feel to salute you in gospel love, desiring your growth in those things that pertain to the kingdom of our Blessed Savior in our own hearts, in obedience to the manifestation of His divine will. It is indeed a blessed condition of soul to be able to say, Here am I, Lord, do with me as seemeth good unto thee." Then we will be enabled to wait patiently for the whole counsel of God, not only when the holy influence covers our hearts as a mantle, but to abide in silence before Him until He is pleased to liberate us that we may perform our lawful duties.

We have, at this time, dear Friends from other Yearly Meetings, and their presence and labors of love are helpful and strengthening to us. Desires have been expressed, at this time, encouraging us to maintain the principles of peace as heretofore held by our forefathers in the Truth. We need to keep near the Fountain of living waters that at first may be small but will increase with faithfulness and will be a river in which to swim. (Ezek. 47.)

We have been reminded, at this time, how God led Israel on their journey to the promised land, how He fed them with manna (angel food, a bread not previously eaten, bread from heaven) So He will feed us, as we look to Him. The desirable journey to the promised land is the type of the journey all must take who desire to come to that state or portion of the people of God, and if faithful to the indwelling voice of the Holy Spirit, we will experience this to be. Since Israel had to leave Egypt, so must we leave what is typical of Egypt and journey on full with the blessed portion in the New Testament. For many things that the natural man clings to, must be left behind, for God in His great wisdom has a controversy with all that is not of His own heavenly creation. Then as we trust all in His holy hands, in living watchfulness, He will guide us safely into His holy habitation, in Heaven of

With a salutation of love we remain.

Your friends.